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FIRST LESSONS

IN THE

HISTORY

OF

THE UNITED STATES.

COMPILED FOR THE

USE OF COMMON SCHOOLS.

BY A PRACTICAL TEACHER.

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## PREFACE.

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SINCE so much has been said and done for the diffusion of knowledge among the people of this country, and so generally and generously has each of the states provided the means for imparting public instruction, we are safe in presuming that every child, between the ages of five and fifteen years, either goes to school or may go. If this be so, then we affirm that every child in the United States should learn something of *the history of his own country* before leaving school. He should have imprinted on his mind a vivid outline of the story of his native land.

The history of America is fruitful in interesting incident; and "Young America" should be familiar with his own pedigree, and hold in hallowed remembrance the "times that tried men's souls," — the souls of his fathers, — if he would be honored and respected at home and abroad, and secure for himself a virtuous, happy, and "green old age." Improvement in individual and national virtue is not the least among the advantages to result from the study of history; and no country, ancient or modern, affords examples better adapted to excite indignation against the oppressor, and to cause the heart to glow with the admiration of suffering virtue, than America, both in its early settlement and in its struggles for independence.

To facilitate the attainment of this knowledge by the young is the design of the present compilation, in which the leading facts of our history are placed before the learner in familiar language, and in a concise form. Many important incidents are illustrated by appropriate engravings, and six well-drawn maps, engraved on steel and colored, are inserted to aid the pupil in locating the scenes and events described. At the close of the volume is a series of *questions*, which may be used by the teacher in conducting examinations, or by the learner to ascertain whether he has mastered his lesson. The Chronological Table has been prepared with great care, and contains, besides the topics treated in this book, many others of interest and importance connected with American History.

Boston, *January*, 1856.

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#### INDEX TO MAPS.

Mexico, Guatimala, and West Indies, faces page.....	14
Middle States,.....	16
Eastern States,.....	32
Canada, New Brunswick, &c.,.....	48
Southern States,.....	56
Mexico,.....	152

# CONTENTS.

---

CHAPTER	PAGE
I. DISCOVERIES IN AMERICA, . . . . .	7
II. SETTLEMENTS. — VIRGINIA, . . . . .	15
III. NEW YORK, . . . . .	24
IV. PLYMOUTH COLONY, . . . . .	31
MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY, . . . . .	31
MAINE, . . . . .	31
NEW HAMPSHIRE, . . . . .	31
CONNECTICUT, . . . . .	31
RHODE ISLAND, . . . . .	31
VERMONT, . . . . .	31
V. NEW JERSEY, . . . . .	50
DELAWARE, . . . . .	50
MARYLAND, . . . . .	50
PENNSYLVANIA, . . . . .	50
CAROLINA, . . . . .	50
GEORGIA, . . . . .	50
VI. FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR, . . . . .	60
VII. THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR, . . . . .	70
DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, . . . . .	88

VIII.	ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, . . . . .	103
	THE CONSTITUTION, . . . . .	105
	AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION, . .	121
IX.	GEORGE WASHINGTON'S ADMINISTRATION, .	125
X.	JOHN ADAMS'S ADMINISTRATION, . . . .	127
XI.	THOMAS JEFFERSON'S ADMINISTRATION, . .	128
XII.	JAMES MADISON'S ADMINISTRATION, . . .	131
XIII.	JAMES MONROE'S ADMINISTRATION, . . .	144
XIV.	JOHN QUINCY ADAMS'S ADMINISTRATION, .	147
XV.	ANDREW JACKSON'S ADMINISTRATION, . .	148
XVI.	MARTIN VAN BUREN'S ADMINISTRATION, .	149
XVII.	WILLIAM H. HARRISON'S ADMINISTRATION, .	150
	JOHN TYLER'S ADMINISTRATION, . . . .	150
XVIII.	JAMES K. POLK'S ADMINISTRATION, . . .	151
XIX.	ZACHARY TAYLOR'S ADMINISTRATION, . . .	158
	MILLARD FILLMORE'S ADMINISTRATION, . .	159
—————		
	QUESTIONS FOR EXAMINATION, . . . . .	161
	CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE, . . . . .	184

# FIRST LESSONS IN HISTORY.

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## I. DISCOVERIES IN AMERICA.

1. AMERICA was discovered by Christopher Columbus, in 1492.<sup>1</sup> This celebrated man was born at Genoa, in Italy, in the year 1435 or 1436. He was the son of a wool comber, and became a sailor when he was fourteen years of age. He made a great many short voyages in the Mediterranean Sea, and sailed to the northern seas of Europe, which was at that time deemed a remarkable enterprise.

2. After this he returned to Italy, and engaged in a

<sup>1</sup> After the discovery had been made, other nations laid claim to this honor, and thus attempted to deprive Columbus of the merit to which he was justly entitled.

The only nations, however, which appear to have had even the semblance for such a claim were the Welsh and Norwegians.

In regard to the Welsh, no well-founded claim appears to exist, beyond the discovery and attempted settlement of the islands in the Atlantic called the Azores; and even these are doubtful. There is stronger reason for believing that the Northmen, in the beginning of the tenth century, discovered Newfoundland or Labrador, and even visited the shores of Rhode Island and Massachusetts. It is claimed, also, that they attempted to colonize the country. While there is no certain record of these events, historical writers treat the claims in favor of the Northmen with respect. But these cannot detract from the honor of the great Genoese navigator. His was a discovery not of chance, but of calculation.

war against the Venetians and Turks. One day, when cruising in a vessel off the coast of Portugal, he met with a Venetian ship; an engagement immediately followed, in which both vessels took fire, and the crews were compelled to leap into the sea. Columbus was a good swimmer, and supported by an oar, he succeeded in reaching the land.

3. At this time there were no large ships, and people were not accustomed to sail out fearlessly upon the broad ocean, as they now are; the people of Europe, who had only sailed timidly along the shores of the eastern continent, did not know that such a country as America existed. The shape of the earth was then unknown; some persons supposed that it was flat, but nobody knew that it was round. The art of navigation was, however, rapidly advancing; seamen were venturing farther on the deep, and an ardent desire to explore the unknown ocean was kindled. This curiosity had been greatly stimulated by the Portuguese discovery of Madeira and Porto Santo, lying to the north-west of Africa.

4. It was at this period that Columbus landed in Portugal, the sailors of which country were the best navigators in the world. He proceeded to Lisbon, the capital, where he soon married the daughter of a distinguished navigator, Bartholomew Perestrello, formerly governor of Porto Santo.

5. Perestrello being dead, Columbus had access to all his charts and journals; and from these he acquired much information. He again went to sea, and for many years carried on a profitable trade between Madeira, the coast of Africa, the Azores, and the Canaries.

6. At this period the people of Europe had considerable trade with India, but no vessels ever having passed round the Cape of Good Hope, the people did not know

the shape of Africa, nor did they know that they could go from Europe to India by water. They therefore sent their merchandise across the Mediterranean, to the ports of Egypt, whence they were taken by land to the Red Sea. Here they were transported in vessels, which sailed through the Straits of Babelmandel, and across the Indian Ocean, to India.

7. This method of conducting so important a commerce was expensive and tedious. The people, therefore, were very anxious to find some way of going to India by sea. This great subject occupied the attention of all Europe, and Columbus, in particular, dwelt upon it with the most intense interest. He studied books; he consulted maps; and often, while his little vessel was ploughing the sea, he would revolve in his mind all the facts which he had collected relating to it.

8. At night, when the stars shone down upon his ship, floating like a speck on the bosom of the mighty ocean, he looked up and mused, with curious wonder, upon the heavenly bodies. From these contemplations his mind descended to the earth, and strove to solve the mysteries that involved it. Was it a vast plain, stretching out to a boundless extent? Or was it a globe, swung in the heavens, and revolving, like a planet, around the sun? After a great deal of reflection, Columbus adopted this latter idea, and, applying it to the question of reaching India by water, he concluded that, if he sailed across the Atlantic in a westerly direction, he should at length come to India.

9. Columbus therefore resolved to enter upon the grand scheme of sailing westward upon the Atlantic, to discover what might lie beyond it. He immediately made known his views to the government of Genoa, his own countrymen, with a request that they would fit out a small fleet, in which he might make the desired voyage. But

these men, being ignorant, rejected the offer with contempt.

10. He next applied to the court of Lisbon, who listened attentively to his scheme, and detained him for a long time. In the mean time they fitted out a vessel, and despatched it privately, with a view of anticipating Columbus in his great project. But the commander of the vessel was incompetent to the enterprise which he had undertaken, and soon came back, having made no discovery.

11. Disgusted with this meanness, Columbus set out for Madrid, the capital of Spain. By what route or by what means he reached this country, we have no information; but he arrived there, and succeeded, through the influence of a prior of a convent, in obtaining an interview with Ferdinand and Isabella, then on the united thrones of Castile and Arragon.<sup>1</sup>

12. For a time these sovereigns gave him no encouragement; but finally the queen undertook the enterprise, and generously offered to part with her own jewels to defray the expense of the outfit. Accordingly, a fleet, consisting of three small vessels, was soon ready for the voyage. The names of these vessels were the Santa Maria, the Pinta, and the Nina, and on board of them were ninety

<sup>1</sup> Spain, which had long been in possession of the Romans, was invaded by the Vandals, and other tribes from the north, in the fifth century; these tribes were subdued by the Visigoths, or Western Goths. During the eighth century the Moors or Saracens invaded and conquered a great part of the country; but the Goths retained a portion, and afterwards founded several distinct kingdoms, the most considerable of which were Castile and Leon, Arragon and Navarre. In 1474, Ferdinand, King of Arragon, married Isabella, Queen of Castile and Leon, and thus they united the two kingdoms. Navarre was subsequently conquered in 1512, and Spain was thus formed into one monarchy.

mariners, together with private adventurers, numbering in all one hundred and twenty persons.

13. On Friday, the 3d of August, 1492, Columbus with his little fleet set sail from Palos, in Spain. The adventurers proceeded in the first place to the Canary Isles. These they left on the 6th of September, and, sailing in a westerly direction, launched forth upon the bosom of the unknown deep. They soon lost sight of land, and nothing could be seen but the skies above and the water spread out around them. A solemn mystery hung over the sea, and, as they advanced on their voyage, they could not tell what dangers they might encounter.

14. They proceeded for several weeks, constantly sailing in a westerly direction; but Columbus had great difficulty with his men. They were exceedingly alarmed at the idea of being at such a vast distance from home, upon an unknown sea; and at length their fears were so much excited, that both the officers and men, on board the three vessels, positively refused to go any farther. They even thought of throwing Columbus overboard; and perhaps they would have executed this design, if he had not found means to pacify them. He finally proposed that they should go on for three days more, and if by that time they did not discover land, he promised to return. This was deemed a reasonable proposition, and they all agreed to it.

15. As they proceeded they very soon met with floating sea weed, and saw birds in the air. Some of these appeared to be weary, and settled upon the masts of the vessels. Here they remained all night, but in the morning they departed, and flew to the west. All these things made the sailors believe that land was near; and their hopes and expectations were soon raised to the highest pitch.

16. One night, as Columbus was standing upon the deck

of his vessel, looking out upon the sea, he thought he discovered a light. He mentioned it to some of the men, and they, too, thought they could see it. There was now no sleep on board the vessels. Both sailors and officers were gathered upon the decks, or distributed among the rigging, straining their eyes to discover land. At two o'clock in the morning, a man, stationed on the top of the mast in the forward vessel, exclaimed, "Land! land!" This was soon communicated to the others, and the most lively joy filled the breasts of all the seamen.

17. The morning came, and assured them that their hopes were realized. The shore lay before them in the distance, and the sun shone down upon it, seeming in their eyes to give it an aspect of peculiar beauty. Deeply affected with gratitude to that Being who had borne them safely over the waves, and crowned their bold adventure with success, they knelt down, and offered to Heaven their warmest expressions of thanksgiving.

18. Having approached the shore, Columbus and some



Landing of Columbus.

of his officers entered a boat, and went towards the land. They perceived that it was covered with woods, diversified with hills and valleys, and watered by rivers. As they came near, they saw a multitude of people, almost naked, and of a red color, collected upon the shore. These were attracted by the strange spectacle before them. They had never seen vessels or white men before; and when the Spaniards approached the island, with colors flying, and amid bursts of martial music, their astonishment knew no bounds.

19. At length the boat reached the shore. Columbus, richly dressed, and having a drawn sword in his hand, first sprang from the boat, and set his foot upon the earth. His companions followed, and kneeling down, kissed the ground, to express their joy and gratitude. The Spaniards now erected a cross, before which they performed religious worship; and Columbus then took possession of the country in the name of the King and Queen of Spain. These events took place on the 11th of October, 1492. The island they discovered was one of the Bahamas, now called Cat Island. It was called Guanahani by the natives, but Columbus gave it the name of St. Salvador.

20. The Spaniards were surprised, on landing, to find a race of people such as they had never seen in Europe. They were of a copper color, nearly naked, beardless, with long black hair hanging on their shoulders. The natives were still more surprised at the sight of the Spaniards. They looked with amazement upon their ships, and when they heard a cannon fired, they were struck with fear and wonder.

21. After spending some time in examining this island, Columbus set sail, and visited several others, not far distant. On the 7th of November, he reached Cuba;

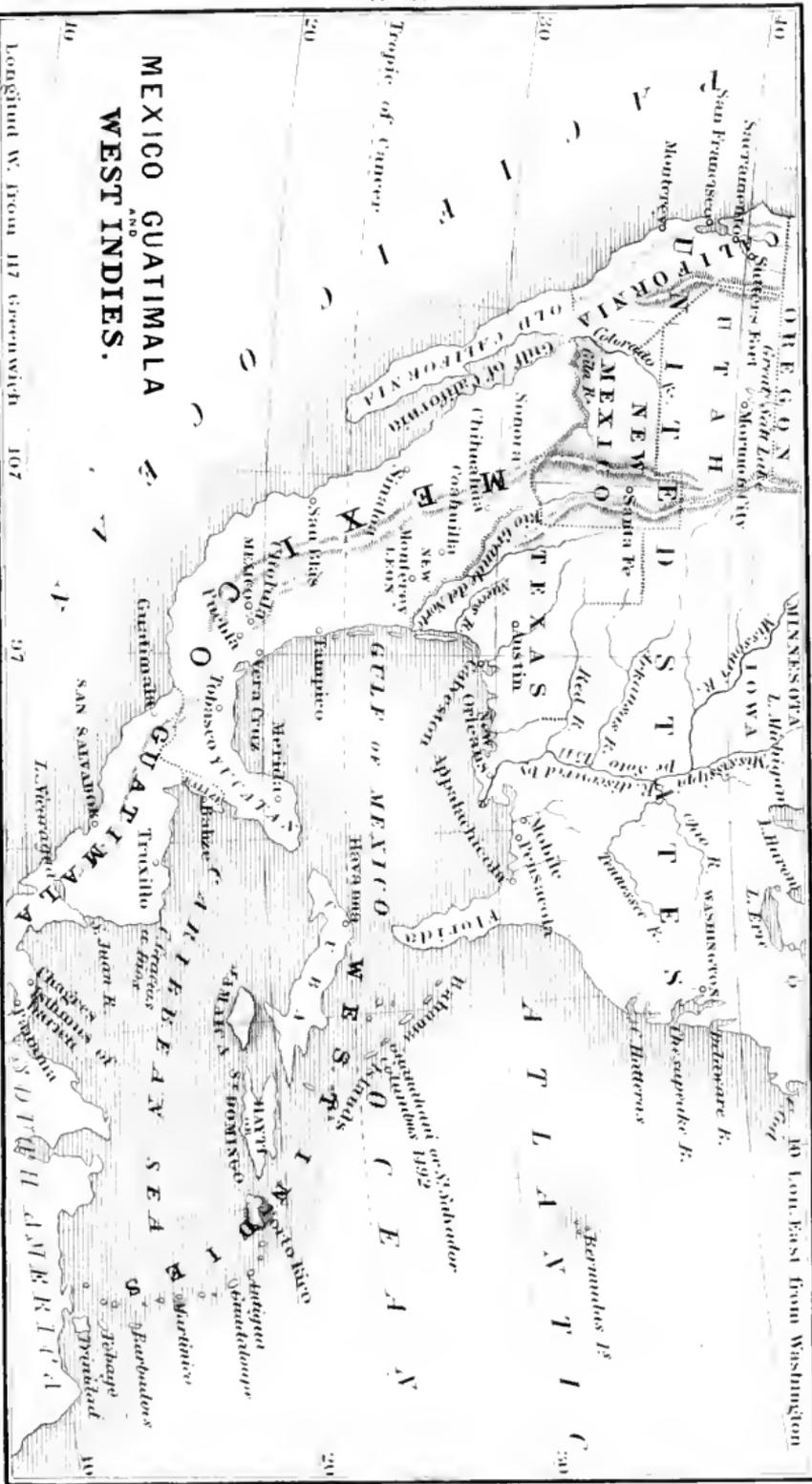
and afterwards he discovered Hayti, which he called Hispaniola.

22. Having spent some time in examining the country, Columbus set sail on his return to Spain; and after many dangers, he reached Palos, on the fifteenth of May, 1493, after an absence of nine months and eleven days. He was received with the greatest honor by the people; and, as he travelled across the country to visit the king and queen, and tell them of his discovery, the inhabitants flocked with eager curiosity to see him. When he came to the city of Barcelona, where the king resided, a grand procession was formed, and moved through the city to a public square, where the king and queen were seated on a splendid throne. Here they received Columbus with the greatest marks of honor. He then gave an account of his voyage to the king and queen, and those around him. They listened to him with breathless attention, for he was an eloquent man, and his story was one of the deepest interest. The king was so much delighted that he ordered a new expedition to be immediately fitted out, and gave the command of it to Columbus.

23. After this Columbus made a second, third, and fourth voyage; on the third of which, he discovered the continent of South America. He died in Valladolid, in 1506, at about the age of seventy years.

24. The fame of Columbus spread rapidly throughout Europe, and many adventurers came to America; among whom was Americus Vesputius, a native of Florence, who, on his return to Spain, wrote an account of his voyage, claiming the honor of being the first discoverer of the *main land*; and from him the continent was named America. Columbus was thereby unjustly deprived of the honor of giving his name to the country which he had discovered.

25. In 1497 John Cabot, a Venetian by birth, and his



**MEXICO AND WEST INDIES.**

**GUATEMALA**

Longitude W. from 117 Greenwich 107

97

40

20

40

20

30

40

OREGON

CALIFORNIA

NEW MEXICO

TEXAS

FLORIDA

MISSISSIPPI

LOUISIANA

MISSOURI

ILLINOIS

INDIANA

KENTUCKY

TENNESSEE

MISSISSIPPI

ALABAMA

MISSISSIPPI

LOUISIANA

MISSISSIPPI

MISSISSIPPI

MISSISSIPPI

MISSISSIPPI

MINNESOTA

WISCONSIN

ILLINOIS

INDIANA

KENTUCKY

TENNESSEE

MISSISSIPPI

ALABAMA

MISSISSIPPI

LOUISIANA

MISSISSIPPI

30 East from Washington



son, Sebastian Cabot, made a voyage under the patronage of Henry VII. of England, and discovered the continent of North America. In 1498 Sebastian made a second voyage, and explored the coast of North America from Labrador to Virginia. This was the foundation of the English claim to North America.

26. In 1524 John Verrazani, a native of Florence, made a voyage in behalf of the King of France. He explored the coast as far north as Newfoundland, and gave to the region he visited the name of New France. In 1534, James Cartier, in the employ of France, explored the coast of Newfoundland; and the following year, he sailed up the St. Lawrence River as far as Montreal. These voyages were the foundation of the French claim to that part of North America which is now called Canada.

27. In 1541 Ferdinand de Soto, a Spaniard, discovered the Mississippi River. He died on its banks in 1542, and was buried in the river, at his own request.<sup>1</sup>

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## II. SETTLEMENTS. — VIRGINIA.

1. PREVIOUS to the year 1607, North America was a wide hunting ground for the Indians. They alone dwelt in its valleys, roamed over its hills and mountains, and sailed upon its rivers and bays.

2. The Spaniards had penetrated into South America, and found countries abounding in silver and gold. Stories of their success were circulated throughout Europe, and

<sup>1</sup> Several other voyages of discovery were undertaken previous to the settlement of North America, descriptions of which may be found in more extended works upon history; but the foregoing accounts will be sufficient for the purposes of this treatise.

the spirit of adventure entered into many minds. In England a company was formed for making a settlement in North America; and having obtained a grant of land, they despatched three ships, with one hundred and five adventurers, for the new world.

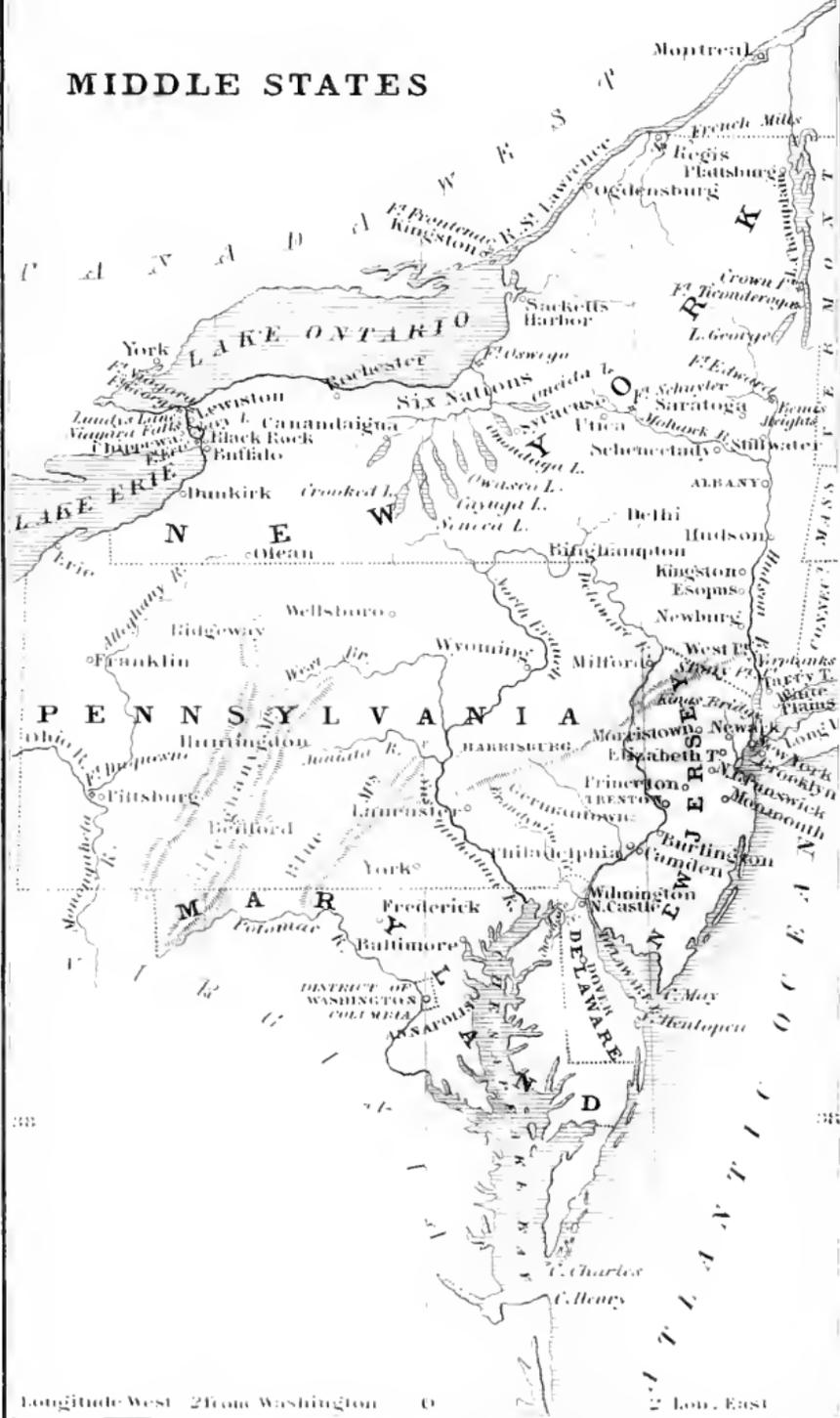
3. After sailing across the Atlantic, a storm drove them into the mouth of Chesapeake Bay. On approaching the land, they discovered a large and beautiful river, which they called James River, in honor of James I., then king of England. They sailed up this river, and had several interviews with the Indians, who received them kindly; and on the 13th of May, 1607, they landed, and commenced their settlement at Jamestown. This was the first permanent English settlement in North America.



Settlement of Jamestown.

4. The colonists soon began to experience difficulties which they had not foreseen. The provisions they brought with them were at length exhausted; and having planted nothing, they were in great want of food. Besides this,

# MIDDLE STATES





the climate being hot and damp, many of them were taken sick, and in the course of four months fifty of them died.

5. They were now in great distress, and hardly knew what to do. In this emergency, they consulted one of their number, named John Smith. He was certainly one of the most extraordinary men that ever lived. At the age of fifteen, he had left England, and travelled on foot through Spain, France, and Germany.

6. He was once engaged in a battle with the Turks, and being wounded, was taken prisoner and sent to Constantinople. Here he was made a slave, and was treated cruelly by his master; but his mistress took compassion on him, and sent him to her brother, who lived at a great distance, requesting that he might be treated kindly. But her directions were not followed, and Smith received the same harsh treatment as before. Irritated by this, he slew his new master. He then travelled in various countries, meeting with strange adventures wherever he went.

7. After this he returned to England, and joined the expedition to Virginia. While they were at sea, the emigrants became jealous of him, and put him in confinement. In this condition he remained until the distress of the colony rendered his assistance necessary. They then granted him a trial; and being acquitted, he immediately adopted measures for remedying the existing evils. He set about building a fort, to protect the people from the Indians, and made long journeys into the wilderness, to procure corn and other food of the natives.

8. On one occasion he obtained an Indian idol, made of skins and stuffed with moss. This the savages revered very much; and in order to get it back, they paid him as much corn as he asked for. Nothing could exceed the boldness and enterprise of this singular man; yet it

must be confessed that his conduct was not always regulated by justice or truth. In his intercourse with the savages, he resorted to stratagem or violence, if he could not succeed in his plans by other means. It was partly on this account that the Indians began to hate the white people; and Smith himself nearly fell a victim to the feelings of revenge which he had excited.

9. He went one day to explore the little River Chickahominy. Having ascended as far as he could in a boat, he left it in charge of his men, and proceeded along the bank of the river, with two white men and two Indian guides. But not long after he was gone, the savages, who were lurking in the woods, surrounded the men in the boat, and took them prisoners.

10. They then pursued Smith, and soon coming up with him, killed his white companions with their arrows, and wounded him. But with an undaunted spirit, he fired upon his enemies, and tying one of the Indian guides to his side, he continued to retreat towards the boat. Awed by his bravery, the savages kept aloof; but at length he came to a place where he sank in the mire.

11. Being unable to extricate himself, his enemies now seized him, and took him in triumph to Powhatan, their king. A council was now held, to determine what should be done with the prisoner, and it was decided that he should die. He was accordingly brought forth, and being laid on the ground, his head was placed upon a stone.

12. Powhatan claimed the honor of killing him. He took a large club, and, raising it high in the air, was about to give the fatal blow, when his daughter, Pocahontas, moved by pity, rushed to the prisoner, and sheltered his body by her own. The astonished chief brought his club slowly to the ground, and a murmur of surprise burst from the lips of the savages who stood around. The chief

now raised his daughter, and seeming to be touched by that pity which had affected her so much, gave Smith his liberty, and sent him back to Jamestown.



Pocahontas saving the life of Smith.

13. On his return Smith found the number of colonists reduced to thirty-eight. They were so disheartened that most of them had determined to abandon the settlement, and go back to England. Smith remonstrated, but they would not stop. They entered a small vessel, and prepared to sail down the river. He determined that they should not go; so he pointed the guns of the fort at the vessel, and threatened to sink her if they did not return. Alarmed at this, they gave up their project, and came ashore.

14. The colony was now almost in a starving condition; but Smith, by this time, had acquired such a reputation for courage among the Indians, that they did not dare to refuse supplies. Pocahontas, too, the beautiful Indian girl who had saved his life, continued to be his friend, and

sent him such articles as were most needed. Thus the colony was able to subsist till Captain Newport, who brought out the first settlers, returned to the colony, bringing with him a quantity of provisions, and one hundred and twenty persons.

15. Now that the danger was over, the colonists would no longer submit to the government of Smith. Disorder and confusion among the people soon followed. About the same time, the passion for gold, which had induced many of the settlers to come to the country, was again excited. Some particles of yellow shining earth were found in the bank of a little stream north of Jamestown. Captivated with the idea of getting suddenly rich, the colonists left their proper employments, and went to dig what they supposed to be gold.

16. Smith endeavored to dissuade them, but they would not listen to him. Nothing was thought of, or talked of, but gold. So they all went to filling the ship with the earth, which they supposed to contain particles of that precious metal. At length she was loaded, and sailed for England. When she arrived there, the cargo was examined, and found to be nothing but common mud, filled with little pieces of shining stone.

17. There is a lesson to be drawn from this point of history. "All is not gold that glitters," says the proverb; and so the Virginians found it. I hope my readers, if they are ever tempted by any shining prospect to depart from the path of duty, will recollect that what seems to be gold often proves to be only vulgar dust.

18. Smith, finding that he could not be useful, left the colonists digging for gold, and went himself to explore the coasts of the Chesapeake Bay. Having been absent some time, he returned, and after a while went again to traverse the wilderness. He often met the Indians, traded

with some, fought with some, and again went back to the settlement, leaving with the natives an awful impression of his valor. On his return he was again chosen president, and the people submitting to his authority, order was soon restored. Habits of industry were resumed, and peace and plenty soon smiled upon the colony.

19. In 1609 the London Company sent out nine ships, with nine hundred emigrants, to the colony. On board of one of these vessels there were some officers appointed to rule over them. This, unhappily, was driven by a storm upon the Bermudas, and detained for a long time. The other vessels arrived safely; but the persons who came in them were of a vicious character, and refused to permit Smith to govern them. He determined, however, that he would be obeyed, and accordingly he seized upon several of them, and put them in prison. This alarmed the rest, and order was again restored.

20. It was about this time that the Indians, fearing that the white people would become too powerful, determined to make a sudden attack upon them, and kill them all. Pocahontas heard of this scheme, and resolved, if possible, to save the English. Accordingly, one dark and stormy night, she left her father's wigwam, and went alone, through the forests, to Jamestown. Here she found Smith, and apprised him of the threatened danger. She then returned, and Smith took immediate measures to put the colony in a state of defence. The Indians, finding the people watchful and prepared, gave up their project; and thus again did Pocahontas save the life of Smith, as well as the lives of all the white people in the colony.

21. About this time Smith received a dangerous wound, which obliged him to go to England, to consult a surgeon. The Indians, finding the only man they feared was gone, attacked the colony, and cutting off their supplies, reduced

them to the greatest extremity. Such, in a short time, was their miserable condition, that they devoured the skins of their horses, the bodies of the Indians they had killed, and the flesh of their dead companions. In six months their number was reduced from more than five hundred to sixty.

22. At this time, the persons who had been wrecked at Bermuda arrived; but they, with the other settlers, all agreed that it was best to quit the settlement, and return to England. Accordingly they sailed down the river for that purpose. Fortunately they were met by Lord Delaware, who had come in a vessel from England, loaded with provisions. This revived their courage, and they went back to Jamestown.

23. The colony now began to enjoy more favorable prospects. Lord Delaware, who was governor, restored order and contentment by his mild and gentle conduct, and the Indians were once more taught to respect and fear the English. In 1611, new settlers arrived, and other towns were founded; and under a succession of wise governors, Virginia became a flourishing and extensive colony.

24. In 1612 Captain Argal went on a trading voyage up the Potomac, and heard that Pocahontas was in the neighborhood. He invited her to come on board his vessel, and she came. He then detained her, and carried her to Jamestown. He knew that Powhatan loved his daughter, and thought, while she was in the possession of the English, that he would be afraid to do them mischief. But the noble-hearted chief, indignant at the treachery that had been practised, refused to listen to any terms of peace till his daughter was restored.

25. While Pocahontas was at Jamestown, a respectable young Englishman, named Rolfe, became very fond of her.

She was, indeed, a very interesting woman — simple, innocent, and beautiful. Pocahontas soon became attached to Rolfe, and with the consent of Powhatan, they were married. This was followed by peace between the colony and all the tribes subject to Powhatan. Soon after, Rolfe visited England with his bride. She was received by the king and queen with the respect due to her virtues as a woman, and her rank as a princess. When she was about to return to America, she died, leaving one child, from whom some of the most respectable families in Virginia have descended.

26. New settlers now frequently arrived, and the colony rapidly increased. In 1620 a Dutch vessel came to Jamestown, bringing twenty Africans, who were purchased by the people. These were the first slaves brought into our country, and thus the foundation was laid for the system of slavery which now pervades the Southern States.

27. In 1622, in the midst of apparent peace and prosperity, the colony was on the point of annihilation. Powhatan, the friend of the English, was dead. His successor, Opechancanough, was a chief of great talent; but he secretly hated the English, and formed a scheme for their destruction. By his art and eloquence he persuaded all the neighboring tribes to unite in an effort to kill every white man, woman, and child throughout the colony.

28. To conceal their purpose, the Indians now professed the greatest friendship for the English, and, the evening before the attack, brought them presents of game. The next day, precisely at twelve o'clock, the slaughter began, and three hundred and forty-seven men, women, and children were killed in a few hours. More would have been destroyed, had not the plot been revealed by a friendly Indian, in time to put several of the towns on their guard.

29. This dreadful scene roused the English to vengeance. They pursued their enemies into the woods, burned their wigwams, hunted them from forest to forest, killed hundreds of them, and drove the rest back into remote retreats. But although victorious, their numbers were very much reduced. Out of eighty settlements, only eight remained; and in 1624, of the nine thousand that had come to the colony, eighteen hundred only were living.

30. In 1676 the colony experienced all the miseries of civil war. Nathaniel Bacon, a lawyer, put himself at the head of a rebellion, during which Jamestown was burned, and the adjacent districts laid waste. At length he died, and Governor Berkley resumed his authority. Notwithstanding these troubles, Virginia continued to flourish, and in 1688 contained sixty thousand inhabitants. From that period till about the year 1756, they continued to prosper, and to increase in numbers.

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### III. — SETTLEMENTS. — NEW YORK.

1. IN the year 1609, Henry Hudson, an English navigator, was employed by some Dutch people to go on a voyage of discovery. He came to America, and discovered the river which now bears his name. He sailed up as far as Albany, and went in his boat a little farther. He saw, then, along the banks of the river, nothing but trees, and Indians, and wild animals. What a change has taken place! The island at the mouth of the river, which was then covered only with trees and shrubs, is now the seat of a mighty city; and the banks of the Hudson, then so solitary, are now sprinkled over with towns, cities, villages, and country seats.

2. Five years after Hudson's discovery, some Dutch people came to Albany, and commenced a settlement. This was in the year 1614, six years before the Pilgrims arrived at Plymouth. It was the first settlement made in New York. About the same time they built a few houses on an island called by the Indians Manhattau, where the city of New York now stands. You will observe that New York was settled by Dutch, not English people. They came from Holland, or the Netherlands, and the colony, which increased rapidly, was claimed by that country.

3. In 1643 a war broke out with the Indians. The Dutch governor employed a brave captain, by the name of Underhill, to go against them. He had been a soldier in Europe, and knew well how to conduct the business of war. He took with him one hundred and fifty men, and they had a great many battles with the Indians. The latter were defeated, and four hundred of them were killed during the war.

4. In 1646 a severe battle was fought with the Indians, near Horseneck. Great numbers were killed on both sides, but the Dutch were victorious. The dead bodies were buried at a place called Strickland's Plain, and one hundred years afterwards the graves were still to be seen.

5. There were some disputes between the people of New England and those of New York about the boundary of their territories. At length the Dutch governor went to Hartford, where he met some people sent by the New England colonies, and they came to an agreement about the land. But King Charles of England said that the Dutch had no right to any of the land, and granted the country to his brother, the Duke of York and Albany.

6. In 1664 the duke sent Colonel Nicholls with three ships to New York. On his arrival he commanded the

people to surrender the town. They refused at first, but in a little while they gave it up, and he took possession of it. The name of this place, which was before called Manhattan, was then changed to New York, and the place on the Hudson where the first settlement was made, which had been called Fort Orange, was called Albany. These names have since been retained.

7. In 1673 the city of New York was retaken by the Dutch. The fort and city were surrendered by the treachery of John Manning, the commanding officer, without firing a gun. The next year peace was concluded between England and Holland, and the colony was restored to the English.

8. The Duke of York and Albany, the former proprietor, now came again into possession of the colony, and sent Sir Edmund Andros, afterwards the tyrant of New England, to govern it. He was succeeded by other governors; and in 1682 the people were permitted to meet and choose representatives.

9. These representatives assembled and made laws, which could not go into force till they were ratified by the duke. This arrangement was satisfactory to the people, and the colony now felt the blessings of good government.

10. In the year 1685 the Duke of York succeeded his brother, Charles II., and became King of England, under the title of James II. This king was hated by the English people, and he was equally disliked in the colonies. He claimed absolute authority over the American people. This caused him to be much disliked by them. They were therefore very much rejoiced when the news came, in 1689 that he had been driven from the throne, and that William, Prince of Orange, had succeeded him.

11. Elated by this news, and stimulated by the exam-

ple of the people at Boston, who had seized and imprisoned Andros, they began to make preparations to depose the governor, whose name was Nicholson. Alarmed at this, he fled by night, and the chief magistracy was assumed by a militia captain, whose name was Leisler. He was a weak man, and managed the affairs of the colony very badly.

12. While the settlement was suffering from the troubles occasioned by Leisler's administration, war was declared between England and France, and it extended to the French and English colonies in this country. It is known in history as King William's war, the principal incidents of which will be related in the history of New England.

13. Count Frontenac was at this time governor of Canada. In the winter of 1690 he sent a party of French soldiers and Indians to attack Albany. They concluded to destroy Schenectady first. The people of Schenectady had been warned of their danger; but they would not believe that men would come from Canada, a distance of two or three hundred miles, through the deep snows of winter, to molest them.

14. They were, however, fatally deceived. On a Saturday night the enemy came near the town. They divided themselves into small parties, so that every house might be attacked at the same instant. Thus prepared, they entered the place at about eleven o'clock. The inhabitants were all asleep, and stillness rested upon the place. With a noiseless step, the enemy distributed themselves through the village, and at a given signal the savage war whoop was sounded. What a dreadful cry was this to the startled fathers and mothers of this unhappy town!

15. It is scarcely possible to describe the scene that followed. The people, conscious of their danger, sprang

from their beds, but were met at the door, and slaughtered by the savages. Every house was set on fire; and the Indians, rendered frantic by the wild scene, ran through the place, slaying those they chanced to meet. Sixty of the people were killed, and twenty-five were made prisoners. Some attempted to escape; but as they were naked, and the weather was extremely severe, and as they had a considerable distance to go before they could reach a place of security, a part only arrived in safety, while twenty-five lost their limbs by the cold.

16. To avenge these cruelties, and others of a similar nature committed in New England, an attack upon Canada was determined upon. An army, raised in New York and Connecticut, proceeded as far as Lake Champlain; but finding no boats to take them across, they were obliged to return. Thus the whole expedition failed, and this was attributed to the imbecility of Leisler.

17. It was about this time that King William sent Colonel Henry Sloughter to be governor of New York. But he was totally unfit for the office. When he arrived, Leisler refused to give up his authority. He sent two messengers, however, to confer with Sloughter, who were immediately seized by the governor, and put in prison as rebels. This alarmed Leisler and his associates, and they attempted to escape. But he, with his son-in-law Milborne, was taken, tried, and condemned to death, for high treason. The governor, however, refused to sign the warrant for their execution, as he did not wish to sacrifice two men who had been rather weak than wicked.

18. But the enemies of Leisler and Milborne contrived a plot for their destruction. They made a great feast, and invited Governor Sloughter to go and partake of it. He went; and when he was intoxicated with wine, they asked him to sign the death warrant of the two prisoners. This

he did, and before he had recovered his senses, Leisler and Milborne were executed. Thus, through his folly and wickedness, two men suffered an ignominious death.

19. In 1691 Governor Sloughter died. The same year a man by the name of Peter Schuyler, at the head of three hundred Mohawk Indians, went to make an attack upon the French settlements at the north end of Lake Champlain. A body of about eight hundred men were sent from Montreal against him. With these Schuyler and his Mohawks had several battles, in all of which they were successful. They killed more of the enemy than the whole number of their party.

20. In 1692 Colonel Fletcher was made governor of New York, and in 1698 he was succeeded by the Earl of Bellamont. About this time the American seas were very much infested with pirates. These bold men attacked such ships as they met with on the ocean, plundered them of whatever they wanted, and either murdered the crew and took the ships, or sank them both together.

21. Governor Bellamont was particularly charged by the English government to clear the American seas, if possible, of these desperate men. But the necessary ships not being furnished, he and some other individuals determined to fit out a vessel on their own account, and send it against the pirates. They accordingly procured a ship of war, and gave the command of it to a sea captain, whose name was Robert Kidd. But when he got out upon the water, Kidd determined to become a pirate himself. He proposed the plan to his men, and they consented to it.

22. Kidd became one of the most infamous pirates that was ever known. He attacked many vessels upon the Atlantic and Indian Oceans, and after three years returned. After burning his ship, Kidd went to Boston, where he

was seen in the streets. He was soon seized and carried to England, where he was tried, condemned, and executed. A great many stories have been told about Captain Kidd. It is said that he buried a great deal of gold, in pots, somewhere along the coast, and a great many attempts have been made to find this gold, but without success; but Kidd and his sailors probably spent all the money so wickedly got, and never buried any of it.

23. Several governors were sent over from England from time to time, but most of them were unworthy of the office. In 1743 George Clinton was sent over as governor, and was warmly received by the people. His administration was, on the whole, acceptable to them. In 1745, during the war of George II.,<sup>1</sup> New York was much distressed by the incursions of the Indians. Saratoga was destroyed, and other parts of the colony suffered very much. Some of the Indians came to Albany, and concealing themselves in the neighborhood, lay in wait to take prisoners. One savage, bolder than the rest, called Tolmonwilemon, came within the city itself, and carried off people by night.

24. In 1746 New York united with the eastern colonies in an expedition against Canada; but the project totally failed. In 1748 the welcome news of peace between England and France arrived, and the colony was relieved from the distresses brought upon them by the war.

<sup>1</sup> Charles VI., Emperor of Germany, died in 1740, and was succeeded in his dominions by his daughter, Maria Theresa, who was married to Francis of Lorraine. Charles, Elector of Bavaria, asserted his claims to the throne, and, by the aid of Louis XV., was elected emperor. This gave rise to a war which involved the principal states of Europe, called the war of the Austrian succession. It extended to the French and English colonies in America, and in this country was called the war of George II.

25. We have now related the principal events in the history of New York up to the time of the French war, which commenced in 1755. From that time the colonies acted in concert; and we shall therefore leave the separate history of New York here, and give a view of what remains to be said of it in the general account of the French war and the American revolution.

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#### IV.—SETTLEMENTS.

PLYMOUTH COLONY; COLONY OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY;  
MAINE; NEW HAMPSHIRE; CONNECTICUT; RHODE  
ISLAND; VERMONT.

1. MORE than two hundred years ago there were in England a great many people called Puritans. They were not happy in England, for they had peculiar opinions about religion. They were cruelly treated, and some of them at length fled from the country. They went first to Holland, but finally they concluded to go to America.

2. They set out in two vessels, but one of them was leaky, and went back. They all entered the other ship, and after a long and stormy passage they reached a broad harbor. They then sent some people ashore, to examine the country. These found some Indian corn in baskets, buried in the sand. They also discovered Indian burial-places, surrounded by sticks stuck in the ground.

3. One night the exploring party built a fire in the woods, and slept by the side of it. In the morning, some arrows, pointed with eagles' claws and sharp pieces of deer's horns, fell among them. These were sent by some Indians who came to attack them. The white men fired

their guns at them, and the Indians ran off in great alarm. At this time the savages had no guns, and they imagined that the fire of the musket was lightning, and the report thunder. No wonder they were afraid of people who, as they believed, made use of thunder and lightning.

4. Having examined the shores, the emigrants pitched upon a place where they concluded to settle. December 22, 1620, they landed on a rock there, and called the place Plymouth. It was winter when they arrived, and the



Landing of the Pilgrims.

country had a most dreary aspect. There were no houses to receive them; there were no friends to welcome them; there was nothing before them but a gloomy forest, inhabited by savages and wild beasts. There was nothing behind them but the vast ocean rolling between them and their native land. This little colony consisted of one hundred persons. They were divided into nineteen families, and each family built itself a log house.

5. For some time the settlers were not visited by any





of the Indians. They saw a few soon after their landing; but these ran away, as if they were very much frightened. One day, however, an Indian came among them, saying, in English, "Welcome, Englishmen! Welcome, Englishmen!"

6. This surprised the white people very much. The Indian told them that his name was Samoset, and that he had learned to speak English of the fishermen he had seen upon the coast.

7. After some time an Indian chief, called Massasoit, came near to the settlement, with some of his men. He was a sort of king, and ruled over several tribes. He was at first afraid to go down into the village, but by and by he went down, and the people saluted him with a drum and fife, which he liked very much. Then he went into the governor's house, where he ate a very hearty dinner, and drank a prodigious draught of rum. He then made a treaty with the white people, and agreed to be at peace with them. This treaty he and his tribe kept faithfully for many years.

8. The settlers found their situation extremely uncomfortable. The winter was very severe, their houses were miserable, and they were destitute of all those conveniences which they had been accustomed to enjoy in England. Borne down with suffering, many of them were taken sick; and when the spring arrived, half of their number had died. Notwithstanding these discouraging circumstances, other persons came out from England and joined the settlers, so that, in ten years after, the whole number amounted to about three hundred.

9. In 1628 the settlement of a new colony was commenced at Salem, called the colony of Massachusetts Bay; and in the year 1630 more than fifteen hundred persons came from England, and settled at Boston, Dorchester, Salem, and other places in the vicinity. These

people were nearly all Puritans, but many of them possessed wealth, and had been brought up in a very delicate manner. Their sole object in coming to America was to enjoy their religious opinions without restraint. But they had not foreseen the sufferings that were before them.

10. The winter set in with unusual severity. The snow fell to a great depth, and the cold became intense. Assembled in log houses, which afforded but a poor shelter from the driving blasts, the emigrants had to endure hunger as well as cold. Their stock of provisions became nearly exhausted, and many of them were compelled to subsist on beans, muscles, nuts, and acorns.

11. Unable to sustain these privations, many of them died. Among these was one woman whose fate has always excited peculiar sympathy. This was Lady Arabella Johnson. Her father was a rich man in England, and she had been brought up in the enjoyment of every luxury. But in America she was deprived of the common comforts of life. Her delicate frame could not endure these trials. Although her husband came with her, and great care and kindness were bestowed upon her, yet in about a month after her arrival she died.

12. Such were the sufferings that attended the first settlers in New England. Yet these were sustained with the utmost fortitude. Those who died left a state of sorrow, in the consciousness of having done their duty, and the strong hope of entering a state of peace beyond the grave. Those who lived prayed to Heaven for strength to support them in their troubles, and their prayers seemed to be answered. Thus prepared for life or death, they continued to struggle with their misfortunes, with a degree of firmness which we cannot fail to admire.

13. The settlement at Plymouth was the first permanent English settlement in New England. The colony of

Massachusetts was so named from a native Indian tribe. This colony increased much more rapidly than Plymouth. Such favorable accounts were given of it in England, that many persons of distinction came from that country and settled in Boston and other parts of the colony. Among these was Sir Henry Vane. He was but twenty-five years old when he arrived; but he was so grave that he won the hearts of the people, and they made him governor.

14. In the year 1623 the first permanent settlement was made in Maine, at Saco. In 1652 Maine was united to Massachusetts, and continued to form a part of it until 1820, when it was made a separate state. The first settlement in New Hampshire was also made in 1623. It was united to Massachusetts in 1641; but in 1679 it was made a royal province by order of the King of England. In the year 1635 the first settlement was made in Connecticut. In 1636 Roger Williams, having been banished from Massachusetts, settled in Rhode Island. In 1638 a settlement was made at New Haven, which was afterwards called the colony of New Haven. Vermont was not settled till 1724.

15. For a long time the Indians did not molest the inhabitants of the Plymouth and Massachusetts colonies. The treaty made with Massasoit, as before stated, was faithfully observed by them; but the Pequods, who lived in Connecticut, troubled the people there very much. In 1637 they killed three men at Saybrook, and at Weathersfield they killed six men, three women, and twenty cows.

16. These things caused great alarm. Consequently some of the people met at Hartford to consider what should be done. It was determined to send a body of men against the Indians. About ninety white men and seventy friendly Indians were soon assembled. They were all placed under the command of Captain Mason.

They entered some boats at Hartford, and went down the Connecticut River to Saybrook. Here they resolved to make a sudden attack upon Mystic, an Indian fort, situated where Stonington now stands. This was one of the principal places belonging to the Indians.

17. They reached the spot about daybreak. The Pequods had no suspicion that an enemy was near. But by and by a dog barked, and then one of the Indians, who saw the white men, gave the alarm. At this instant the soldiers fired upon the Indians. Many of the savages were killed; but very soon the rest recovered from their astonishment, and then they fought bravely.

18. They shot their arrows and guns at the white men, and hurled stones and sticks at them with the greatest fury. The Indians were far more numerous than the white men, and the latter were at length nearly exhausted. At this moment Captain Mason ordered their fort to be set on fire. The flames caught quickly, and spreading from wigwam to wigwam, soon set them all in a blaze. It was an awful scene, and the struggle was soon terminated. Seventy wigwams were reduced to ashes, and six or seven hundred Indians were killed, either by the bullets or the fire.

19. This dreadful event alarmed the Pequods, and they fled, with their chief, Sassacus, to the west. They were followed by the white men, who overtook them in a swamp near Fairfield. Here a battle was fought, and the Indians were entirely defeated. This was followed by a treaty with the remaining Indians, and the Pequods gave the colonies no more trouble.

20. In 1643 the four colonies of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Haven entered into an agreement for purposes of mutual defence. They were led to do this by fear of the Indians, who were now very un-

friendly, and who watched every opportunity to do the white people mischief.

21. We now approach a period of great interest in the history of New England. The Indians perceived that the English were rapidly increasing in numbers, while they themselves were as fast diminishing. They foresaw that in a short time the English colonies would overspread the whole land, while they should themselves be driven back into the wilderness. This excited their jealousy, and led them bitterly to hate the English. Besides this, quarrels occasionally arose between the white inhabitants and the savages. Whether these originated with the English or the Indians, the latter were always sure to be thought in the wrong, and were punished by the white people accordingly.

22. In short, the Indians had discovered that the English, being wiser and more artful than they, were likely soon to become their masters; and the hatred thus excited was aggravated by acts of injustice and oppression, committed on the part of the English towards the savages.

23. There lived, about this time, in Rhode Island, an Indian, who was called King Philip by the English. He was chief of the Wampanoags, and lived at Mount Hope, near Bristol. The country was then called Pokanoket. Philip, being a man of great sagacity, saw that unless the English colonies were checked, the Indians would, in the course of a few years, cease to exist as independent tribes. After reflecting upon these things, he resolved to make one great effort to drive the English from the land, and free his country from such dangerous intruders.

24. Accordingly he visited, in secret, several of the tribes in New England. He conversed with the chiefs, and told them that if they remained inactive, in a few years the beautiful rivers, and hills, and forests, which

had descended from their fathers, would cease to be their inheritance. He described the English as crafty, long-sighted, and greedy, who added township to township, and colony to colony, and who would never be content until they possessed every foot of land east of the Hudson.

25. He prophesied the gradual decrease, and the final extinction, of all those tribes who once reigned over the whole land. He told them that their forests would be cut down, that their hunting grounds would be soon taken from them, that their warriors would be slain, their children wander forth in poverty, their chiefs be beggars, and their tribes be scattered and lost like the autumn leaves. To remedy these evils, Philip proposed that a mighty effort should be made, by all the tribes in New England, to destroy the English. He had little difficulty in bringing the chiefs into his schemes. A general effort was agreed upon, and soon the war began.

26. In June, 1675, as the people of Swanzey, in Plymouth colony, were returning home from church, a sudden attack was made by some Indians upon them. At this period, the Indians were supplied with muskets, powder, and ball, and they had learned to use firearms with considerable skill. In a few moments, therefore, eight or nine of the inhabitants of Swanzey were killed. The country was immediately alarmed, and the people fled to the succor of the inhabitants from all quarters. An attack was made upon the Indians the next morning, and several of them were killed.

27. This resolute conduct awed the Indians; and Philip himself, expecting an attack, fled from Mount Hope with his warriors. It was soon ascertained that they had gone to a swamp in Pocasset, now Tiverton. The white people followed them thither, and entering the swamp, pursued them till night. They were then obliged to retreat. The

English, finding it impossible to encounter the enemy in the swamp, determined to surround it, and starve them out. But Philip guessed their design, and privately stole away with his men.

28. In all parts of New England the Indians seemed to be moved by a spirit of deadly revenge. They set the town of Springfield on fire, and no less than thirty houses were consumed. About eighty young men were attacked at Muddy Brook, as they were employed in transporting some grain from Deerfield to Hadley. They had no idea that an enemy was at hand. They had stopped a moment with their teams, and were gathering some grapes by the roadside. Sudden as the thunderbolt, the savage yell broke upon their ears. They were immediately surrounded by the Indians; and having no arms, they were incapable of defence. Seventy of them were shot down, and these were all buried in one grave.

29. In New Hampshire and Maine, the Indians fell upon the towns, set the houses on fire, and killed the inhabitants. At Saco, Dover, Exeter, and other places, they committed the most dreadful outrages. In Massachusetts, they attacked Quaboag, now Brookfield, and burned all the houses except one, in which the inhabitants had taken refuge. This they also assailed; and for two days, incessantly, they poured their musket shot upon it. A great multitude of balls passed through the sides of the house, but only one person in it was killed.

30. Finding it impossible to destroy the people in this way, they attempted to set fire to the house. With long poles, they thrust against it firebrands, and rags dipped in brimstone. They shot arrows of fire upon it, and finally they loaded a cart with flax and tow, set it on fire, and pushed it against the house. The curling flame was soon communicated to the building; and now, feeling certain of

their prey, the savages took their station so that they might cut down those who should attempt to escape. But in this moment of peril, the white men were saved, as if by the



Indians setting fire to a house at Brookfield.

hand of Heaven. A sudden shower fell upon the flames, and at once extinguished them. Soon after, Major Willard, with some soldiers, came to their relief. He attacked the Indians, killed a number of them, and the rest fled.

31. At length it was thought necessary to humble the Narragansetts. They were a powerful tribe in Rhode Island, and occupied a fort of great strength. Near two thousand white men went against them. The fort was built on a hill in the centre of a swamp, and in it there were four thousand Indian warriors. There was but one entrance to the fort. This was accidentally discovered by the white men, and they gallantly rushed in to attack the enemy. But the Indians met them, and many of the English were killed. They were at length obliged to retreat; but by and by some Connecticut troops entered

the fort on the opposite side, and at the same moment the attack was vigorously renewed at the entrance.

32. The Indians were now cut down with dreadful slaughter. The fort was taken, and six hundred wigwams were set on fire, and burned to the ground. More than one thousand of the Indian warriors were killed, and three hundred were taken prisoners.

33. Such were some of the events of this remarkable war. For near two years, almost every part of New England was a scene of bloodshed. But although the Indians killed great numbers of white people, yet their own loss was far greater. In truth, they never recovered from the many reverses which they experienced. Although there were, perhaps, ten times as many of them as of the white people, yet such were the superior skill and management of the latter, that the Indians were effectually defeated, and their power in New England was finally overthrown.

34. At length the war was closed by the death of Philip. He was found in a swamp near Mount Hope, with several other Indians. Captain Church, with a few white men, surrounded the swamp at night. When the morning came, Philip, perceiving that he could not escape, rushed towards the spot where some of the white men lay. An English soldier levelled his gun, but it missed fire. An Indian, who was of the party, took deliberate aim, and shot the chief through the heart. Thus fell the most celebrated of all the Indian chiefs. From this time, the Indians, finding further resistance vain, began to submit to the English. The struggle was continued a while in Maine; but that soon ended, and no general effort was ever after made, on the part of the Indians, to subdue the English.

35. This war continued from the year 1675 till 1678. About six hundred white men were killed in the struggle, thirteen towns were destroyed, and six hundred dwelling

houses burned. These were dreadful losses to the poor colonists, but the unhappy Indians suffered still more. Their chiefs and their principal men were nearly all killed; their wigwams were burned; they were driven from their homes; and now, defeated and subdued, their situation was one which may well excite our pity. Savage life, in its happiest state, is a miserable condition; but the New England Indians had now lost their independence, and all that savages hold most dear. From that period they rapidly diminished. Most of the tribes are now extinct, and a few hundreds are all that remain of a mighty people, that once threatened to drive our forefathers from this land.

36. Soon after Philip's war, the colonies began to be involved in difficulty with England. The King of England claimed these colonies as his own, and he, with the Parliament, made certain laws respecting trade and commerce with America.

37. Now it was pretended that the colonies had violated these laws, and therefore the king determined to take away their charters. These charters were of great importance, for they gave the colonies many privileges. The king who reigned in England at the time was James II. In the year 1686 he sent Sir Edmund Andros over to this country, to take away the charters of all the New England colonies except Plymouth.

38. He also appointed Sir Edmund governor over all the colonies whose charters he thus proposed to take away. Accordingly he came. The charter of Connecticut was hid in an oak tree; but Sir Edmund assumed the government of the New England colonies, although he could not find that charter.

39. At first he governed the people pretty well; but by and by he did many things which displeased them very much. Many unjust and oppressive laws were passed,

and the people saw that Sir Edmund had no regard to their happiness and prosperity in his administration.

40. Sir Edmund began to rule in 1686. Two years after, the news arrived that James II., King of England, had become so unpopular as to be obliged to leave the country, and that a new king, William III., had taken his place on the throne. This news gave the colonies great joy, for they hated James II. on account of his conduct towards them, and especially on account of the governor, Sir Edmund Andros, whom he had sent to rule over them. Under the excitement of this joy, the people of Boston seized Sir Edmund and about fifty of his associates, and put them in prison. There they remained for some time; they were then sent to England, to be tried for their misconduct.

41. A strange delusion arose in relation to witchcraft. In the year 1692, two children of Mr. Parris, a minister in Salem, Massachusetts, were taken sick. They were affected in a very singular manner, and the physicians were sent for. They were at a loss to account for the disorder, and one of them finally said they must be bewitched.

42. The children, hearing this, and being in great distress, declared that an Indian woman, living in the house, had bewitched them. Mr. Parris believed what the children said; the Indian woman was accused of the crime, and in a state of agitation and alarm, partially confessed herself guilty. This affair excited great attention; many people came to see these little children, and they were very much pitied.

43. By and by other children imagined that they were affected in a similar manner, and they said that they were secretly tormented by an old woman in the neighborhood. All these things were believed, and more children and

several women soon declared themselves bewitched. They charged several persons with being the authors of their distress. They pretended that these persons entered their rooms through keyholes, or cracks in the window, pinched their flesh, pricked them with needles, and tormented them in the most cruel manner. Nobody could see these tormentors but the sufferers themselves, although several persons might be in the room where one of the bewitched was wailing and shrieking, from the pinches of the witch.

44. Strange as it may seem, this matter, instead of being regarded as a delusion, was thought to be founded in reality. The people in those days believed that the devil sometimes gave to certain persons great power for purposes of evil. These persons were said to deal with the devil, and they were considered very wicked.

45. The business they were supposed to carry on with him was called witchcraft, and any person under their influence was said to be bewitched. In England, Parliament had thought it necessary to make severe laws against witchcraft. Several persons there had been condemned and executed under those laws. It was now thought proper to proceed in a similar manner at Salem. Accordingly, those persons accused of practising witchcraft upon their neighbors were put in prison, and a court was formed to try them.

46. Many of them were examined and found guilty, and some, under the influence of a distempered imagination, confessed that they were guilty. The business at length reached a very alarming height. Nineteen persons had been executed, one hundred and fifty were in prison, and many more were accused.

47. In this state of things, the people began to doubt the correctness of their proceedings. They examined the subject more carefully, and were very soon satisfied that

they had acted rashly. The judges of the court also began to take different views of the subject. Those who were brought to trial were therefore acquitted, and those in prison were released.

48. Thus ended this extraordinary delusion. We at the present day, who know that there is no such thing as witchcraft, cannot but wonder that our ancestors should have believed in it, and that many persons should have been hanged for a crime that was only imaginary. But we should remember that it was a common error of that age. It was not an invention of their own. They received their notions from England, and it was natural that they should act agreeably to them. We must do them the justice to say, however, that they very soon discovered their error, and expressed their sorrow for it.

49. Soon after the accession of William III. to the throne of England, a war broke out between that country and France. At this time the French had several settlements in Canada, extending along the River St. Lawrence, and including Montreal and Quebec. They had also several forts on Lake Champlain and Lake George. The war between France and England, in Europe, of course extended to their American colonies. The French from Canada, assisted by large numbers of Indians, invaded several parts of New England, burned the houses of the inhabitants, killed many of the people, and carried large numbers of men, women, and children into captivity. The cruelties practised almost exceed belief. Towns were attacked at midnight, and in midwinter; the people were often killed in their beds, and those whose lives were spared were torn from their homes, and obliged to endure sufferings worse than death.

50. In the spring of 1697 a party of Indians made an attack on the town of Haverhill, Massachusetts. Among

the people of that town was a Mr. Dustan. He was in a field at work when the news of the attack reached his ears. He immediately started and ran to his house to save his family. He had seven children, and these he collected for the purpose of taking them to a place of safety before the Indians should arrive. His wife was sick, and she had an infant but a week old. He now hurried to her, but before she could get ready to leave the house, Mr. Dustan perceived that a party of the savages were already close to his dwelling. Expecting that all would be slain, he ran to the door and mounted his horse, and telling the children to run forward, he placed himself between them and the Indians. The savages discharged their guns at him, but did not hit him. He had a gun too, and he fired back at them.

51. He then hurried his children along, loaded his gun as he went, and fired at his pursuers. Thus he proceeded for more than a mile, protecting his little family, defending himself, and keeping the enemy at a distance. At length he reached a place of safety, and there, with feelings of joy which cannot be described, he placed his children beyond the reach of the Indians.

52. But Mrs. Dustan was destined to undergo the severest trials. Although she was very ill, the savages compelled her, with the nurse and her little infant, to go home with them, a distance of one hundred and fifty miles. It was winter, and the journey was to be performed on foot through the wilderness.

53. Mrs. Dustan and the nurse were soon overcome with fatigue. The Indians, perceiving that the little infant occupied much of their attention, snatched it from the mother, and killed the little innocent by striking it against a tree. After a toilsome march and the greatest suffering, Mrs. Dustan and her companion completed the journey.

54. But now the Indians concluded to remove to a distant place, and these two women were forced to accompany them. When they reached the end of their journey, they discovered they were to undergo severe torture. They therefore determined, if possible, to make their escape. One night, Mrs. Dustan, the nurse, and a white boy rose secretly while the Indians were asleep. There were twelve of them in the wigwam where they were. These the women killed with their own hands, and then departed. After wandering a long time in the woods they reached Haverhill, and Mrs. Dustan was restored to her family.

55. A few years after King William's war, another war occurred between England and France, which also extended to the colonies in this country, and occasioned great distress. It was called Queen Anne's war.<sup>1</sup> This war commenced in 1702, and the French and Indians immediately invaded New England. In 1704 a party of French and Indians made an attack on Deerfield. It was at night, and in the midst of winter. All the people were asleep; they had no fear that an enemy was at hand. The sudden yell of the savages burst on their ears, and they then knew the dreadful scene that was coming.

56. The town was set on fire, forty-seven of the people were killed, and one hundred men, women, and children were carried into captivity. Among these were Mr. Williams, a clergyman, and his wife and five children. They set out on foot, and began their journey through the snow. On the second day Mrs. Williams, who was in bad health,

<sup>1</sup> England, Holland, and Germany formed an alliance against France in 1701, to prevent the union of France and Spain. The war which followed in 1702 is known in English histories by the name of "the war of the Spanish succession." In this country it was called "Queen Anne's war."

was very weary, and unable to keep up with the rest. Her husband was not allowed to assist her, and she seemed to be on the point of fainting from weakness and fatigue. At this time one of the Indians came up to her and killed her.

57. The other party then went on, but seventeen other persons were killed by the savages before they arrived in Canada. Mr. Williams was kindly treated by the French people there, and after two years he returned, with fifty-seven other captives, to Deerfield. He was minister of that town for twelve years after his return, and then died. This story affords a fair example of the cruelties of this war. It continued till the year 1713, when the French and English made peace with each other in Europe, and the war ceased there, and in the colonies also. From this time Nova Scotia and Newfoundland belonged to the English. Canada still belonged to the French, and continued so till it was ceded to the British in 1763.

58. About the year 1722 the Indian tribes in Maine, and along the eastern and northern border, made war upon the English settlers. These Indians often attacked the people in Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire, and annoyed them very much. But in 1725 this war ceased.

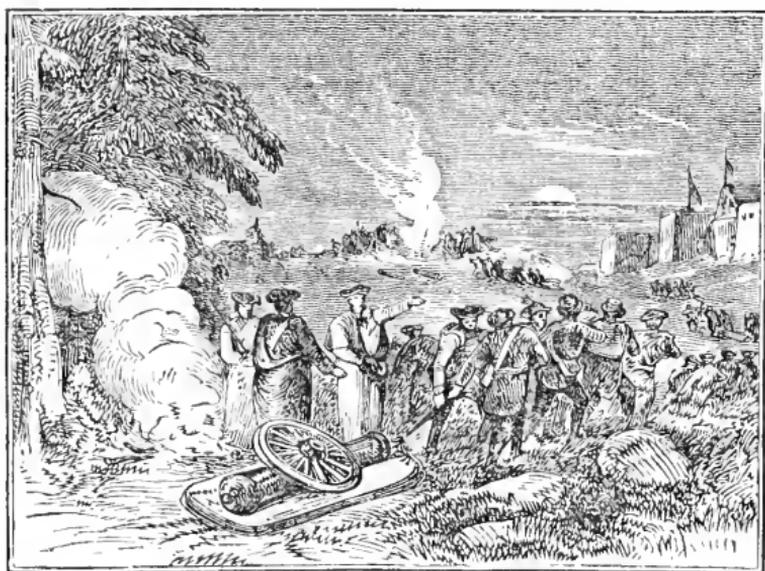
59. In 1744 England and France were again involved in strife. George II. was then King of England, and this war is called King George's war, or the war of the Austrian succession. The most important event to New England that took place during this period was the capture of Louisburg. This was a very strongly fortified town belonging to the French, on the Island of Cape Breton, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Here they kept many ships, and in time of war these drove away the English and American sailors who went to the banks of Newfoundland to catch codfish. To take Louisburg was, there-





fore, a great object. To accomplish this the colonies united, and sent about four thousand three hundred men against it, under the command of Sir William Pepperell. They went in twelve ships and some smaller vessels.

60. They arrived at Louisburg the last of April, 1745. They were occupied fourteen days in drawing their cannon across a swamp, so as to bring them near the town. They then besieged it ; that is, they surrounded it both by land



Soldiers dragging cannon across the morass.

and water. They also made frequent attacks upon the soldiers in the forts. This continued till the 15th June, when the French commander requested them to stop, and on the 17th he surrendered the place into the hands of the Americans. Thus Louisburg and the I-land of Cape Breton came into the possession of the English.

61. In 1748 France and England again made peace, and the colonies once more enjoyed tranquillity. But this did not last long. A still more extensive and important

war was at hand. It commenced in 1755, and it is called in this country the French and Indian war, an account of which will be given hereafter.

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## V.—SETTLEMENTS, CONCLUDED.

### NEW JERSEY, DELAWARE, MARYLAND, PENNSYLVANIA, CAROLINAS, AND GEORGIA.

1. THE first settlement in New Jersey was made by the Dutch in 1623, and soon after, other settlements were commenced by Dutch and Swedes; but it did not receive the name of Jersey until 1664, when it was conquered from the Dutch by the English. Sir George Carteret was one of the proprietors, and the colony received the name of Jersey, in compliment to him, as he was governor of the Island of Jersey, on the northern coast of France. In 1676 the province was divided into East and West Jersey, and so continued until 1702. The government was then surrendered to Queen Anne of England, and East and West Jersey were united, under the title of New Jersey.

2. The settlement of Delaware was commenced at Cape Henlopen, in 1627, by some Swedes and Fins. It was a beautiful spot, covered with green trees, beneath which sported the wild deer, with their young fawns. The people were so charmed with the place that they called it Paradise Point. They now proceeded farther up the bay, and had some intercourse with the Indians. The latter treated them kindly, and sold them land on both sides of the water. The settlers now established themselves near Wilmington, and called the country New Sweden.

3. But the colony was not permitted to enjoy its fine

lands and delightful climate in peace. The Dutch claimed the territory, and after annoying them in various ways, finally built a fort at New Castle. A man by the name of Risingh was then governor of the Swedish colony. One day he proposed to the commander of the Dutch fort to pay him a friendly visit. This was accepted, and Risingh went, accompanied by thirty men. They were received with kindness and treated with great hospitality. But, disregarding this, they treacherously took possession of the fort, and made prisoners of the garrison.

4. The governor of New York at this time was Peter Stuyvesant, whom history describes as possessing a pretty hot temper. Such a man was not likely to permit the treachery of Risingh to go unavenged. So he fitted out an armament, which went against the Swedes in several vessels, in the year 1655. The Dutch were victorious, and having taken the Swedish forts, they allowed a few of the inhabitants to remain, and sent the rest prisoners to Holland. The settlement continued in the hands of the Dutch till 1664, when it came into the possession of the English with the surrender of New York.

5. In 1682 the territory was purchased by William Penn, and until 1703 formed a part of Pennsylvania. At that time it was partially separated from that colony, having a distinct assembly chosen by the people, though the same governor that ruled over Pennsylvania ruled also over Delaware. The colony remained in this situation till 1775, when it became an independent state.

6. At the time of these settlements in America, the Catholics in England were persecuted, as the Puritans had been before. One of them, Lord Baltimore, determined, therefore, to come to America. Accordingly he went to Virginia, which had now been settled for some time. But he found the people there as little disposed to treat the

Catholics kindly as in England. So he went back to England, and begged the king to give him a charter of the land lying on Chesapeake Bay, then occupied only by the Indians.

7. This request was granted; but before the business was completed he died. His son Cecil, also called Lord Baltimore, determined to carry into effect the plans of his father. So he obtained the grant for himself, and in 1634 sent his brother, Leonard Calvert, with two hundred Catholic emigrants, to settle upon the land on the Chesapeake.

8. When they arrived at the mouth of the Potomac River, they found an Indian village there, called Yoanaco. This village they purchased of the savages, and thus obtained good shelter till they could build better houses. They also acquired some good land, which had been cultivated. Their situation was therefore very comfortable.

9. The colonists found plenty of wild deer in the woods, and abundance of fish along the shores of the bay. The sea fowl were also numerous. There were countless flocks of ducks skimming along the water, and settling down around the islands; and there were numbers of wild geese at the mouths of the creeks and rivers.

10. The colony flourished, as well in consequence of its pleasant situation as the liberal policy of its government. These Catholics did not persecute those who differed from them in religious opinion. Lord Baltimore, and Roger Williams, of Rhode Island, seem to have discovered, about the same time, that every man has a right to worship God as he pleases. Thus Rhode Island and Maryland, at this early date, enjoyed the blessings of entire religious freedom.

11. Yet the colony had its share of troubles. A man by the name of Clayborne stirred up the Indians to hos-

tility, and they made war on the settlers. This continued for several years, and the people suffered great distress. In 1645 the same Clayborne induced some of the settlers to rebel against their rulers, and Calvert, the governor, was obliged to fly to Virginia. But the next year the revolt was suppressed. Governor Calvert returned, and the colony once more enjoyed a state of peace.

12. In 1666 the colony contained about twelve thousand inhabitants. In 1676 Lord Baltimore, the founder of the colony, died, leaving behind him the enviable character of a wise and good man. He was succeeded by his son Charles as proprietor of the colony, who possessed the amiable qualities of his father.

13. In 1689 King William assumed the government of the colony; but in 1716 it was restored to Lord Baltimore, and continued in the family till 1775. The people then engaged with the other colonies in the revolution, and Lord Baltimore's claims ceased.

14. There was, for many years, a dispute about the boundary of this state, between the heirs of William Penn, proprietor of what is now the State of Pennsylvania, and the heirs of Lord Baltimore, proprietor of what is now the State of Maryland. In 1762 Mr. Charles Mason, of the English Royal Observatory, London, and Mr. Jeremiah Dixon, were appointed to run a line between the lands of the two parties. This line was called Mason and Dixon's line.

15. In 1681 King Charles granted to William Penn, who was a Quaker, a large tract of land between New Jersey and Maryland. This included Pennsylvania and Delaware. In the fall of the same year, a good many persons, chiefly Quakers, to whom he had sold some of the land, set out in three ships, and came to America. These

people settled on the Delaware River, near where Philadelphia now stands.

16. They brought with them a letter from Penn to the Indians. In this he said to them, "that the great God had been pleased to make him concerned in their part of the world, and that the king of the country where he lived had given him a great province therein, but that he did not desire to enjoy it without their consent; that he was a man of peace, and that the people whom he sent were men of the same disposition; and if any difference should happen between them, it might be adjusted by an equal number of men chosen on both sides."

17. In the fall of 1682 Penn himself came to the colony, with two thousand emigrants. While he was in the country, he met some of the Indian chiefs, and made a treaty with them. His mild and gentle manners made a great impression on the savages. He walked with them, sat with them on the ground, and ate with them of their roasted acorns and hominy. At this they expressed great delight, and soon began to show how they could hop and jump. Penn, it is said, then got up and began to hop, too, and soon showed that he could beat them all. Whether this is true or not I cannot say; but it is certain the Indians long remembered him with feelings of love and veneration.

18. Penn also marked out the plan of a great city, to which he gave the name of Philadelphia, by which is meant "the city of brotherly love." Before the end of the year this place contained eighty buildings. In 1684 Penn returned to England, leaving the province in a happy and prosperous condition.

19. No part of America was settled more rapidly than Pennsylvania. The soil was fertile, the climate mild and agreeable, and the deer and other wild animals were

abundant. The government, too, arranged by Penn was just and liberal, giving perfect freedom to every man to worship God in his own way. Thus at peace among themselves, the Indians being made their friends by justice and gentleness, the people of this colony afforded a striking contrast to the less fortunate settlements in the north and east. Attracted by the favorable circumstances I have mentioned, numerous emigrants flocked to Pennsylvania; and in four years after Penn received the grant, the province contained twenty settlements, and the city of Philadelphia two thousand inhabitants.

20. In 1699 Penn returned to the province. He found some uneasiness among the people, to remove which he gave them a new charter in 1701. This was submitted to the assembly chosen by the people, and accepted. But the inhabitants in that part of the province which now forms the State of Delaware did not like the charter, and refused to accept it. They were therefore separated from Pennsylvania in 1703, and had a distinct assembly, chosen by the people, who made their laws. The same governor, however, presided over Pennsylvania and Delaware.

21. Penn soon returned to England, and never visited America again. He died in 1718, leaving behind him the character of a truly pious and good man. He was twice imprisoned in England, by the government, for his religious opinions, and his enemies accused him of very wicked conduct. But he lived to see every suspicion wiped away from his reputation; and his life teaches us that the world fails not to honor a man of active kindness, piety, and truth.

22. His colony continued to flourish, and its increase in population was unexampled. The Indians, conciliated by kindness, remained for seventy years at peace with the

inhabitants; and thus, until the French war, nothing occurred in Pennsylvania to interrupt her prosperity.

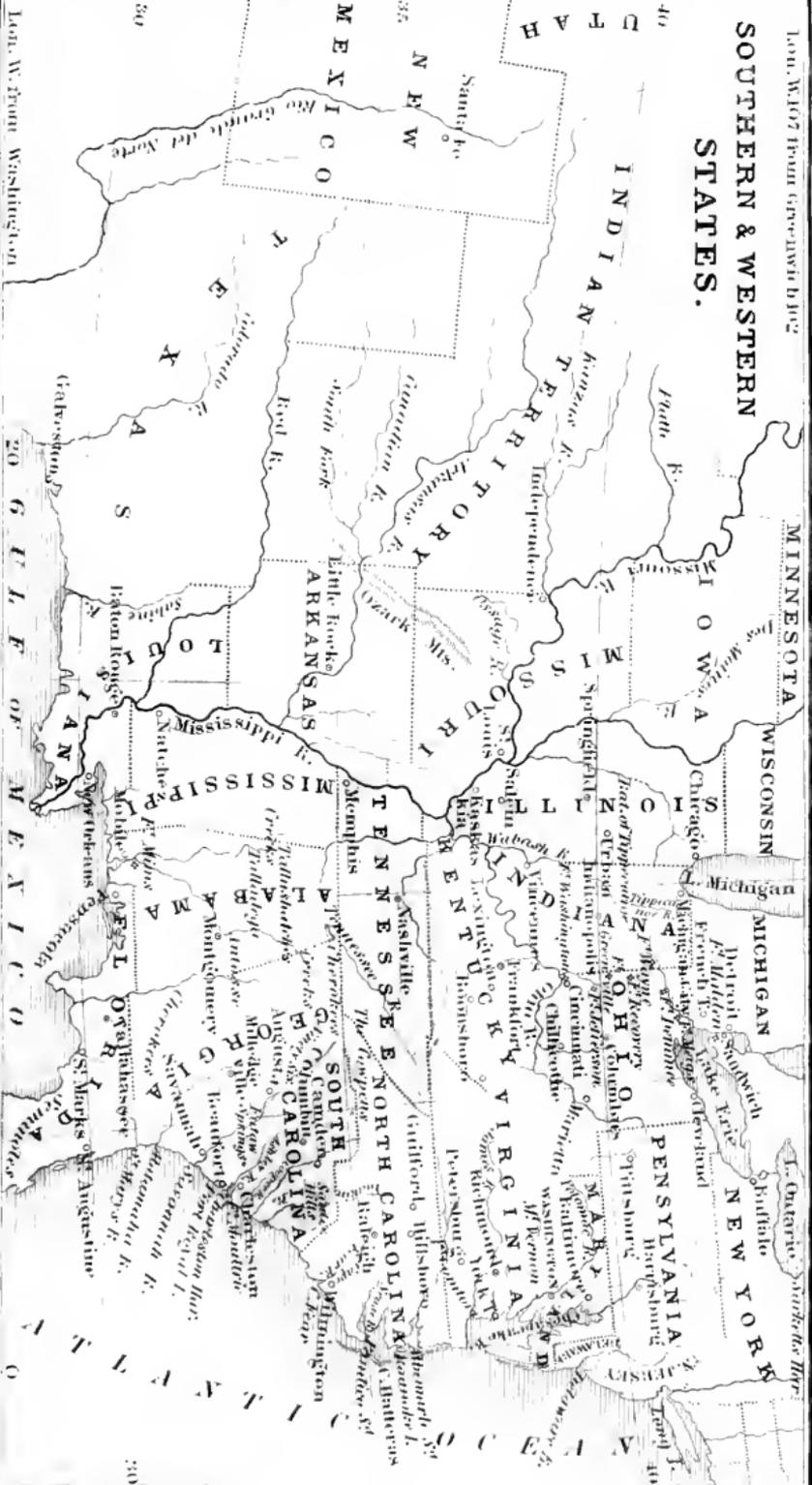
23. North Carolina was first settled by the English about the year 1650. The settlers of Virginia were not Puritans, but Churchmen, or Episcopalians. They were, however, almost as zealous as the New England fathers, and persecuted those who did not believe with them in matters of religion. Several persons, distressed by these persecutions, left the colony, and proceeding to the north side of Albemarle Sound, settled along the shore, about the time above mentioned. Here, in the wilderness, they found peace and plenty. The soil was fertile, and the climate soft and gentle. Free from the biting winters of the north, undisturbed by the persecutions of their fellow-men, they lived for a time without government, yet without anarchy.

24. Attracted by these favorable circumstances, other settlers came to them, until their number was considerable. In 1663 the territory of North and South Carolina was granted by the King of England to Lord Clarendon and others. To induce people to settle here, they gave public notice that the inhabitants should enjoy perfect religious freedom, and have an assembly of their own choosing, to make laws for them. Accordingly a good many persons came, and Mr. Drummond was made governor of the colony.

25. In 1670 William Sayle made a settlement at a place then called Port Royal. The next year he removed to a neck of land between two rivers, called Cooper and Ashley Rivers. The settlement he called Charleston, in honor of the King of England, Charles II., then on the throne. This place grew very rapidly, and being at a great distance from Albemarle Sound, it had a distinct government to superintend its affairs. Hence arose the two names of North and South Carolina.

# SOUTHERN & WESTERN STATES.

Long. West from Greenwich Time



Long. West from Washington

30 20 10 0 10 20 30

300



26. In 1707 some French people, forced from their homes by persecution, settled on the River Trent, near Pamlico Sound. In 1710 some Germans, driven by the same cause from their native land, took refuge near the same spot. Here, for a time, these settlers lived happily; but by and by a sudden and awful calamity fell upon them.

27. Not far from the white people, two powerful tribes of Indians, named Tuscaroras and Corees, inhabited the forests. Irritated by some injuries they had received, and fearing that the white people would soon spread themselves over the whole land, they secretly plotted the entire destruction of the French and German settlers.

28. The Indians were always very artful in war. In the present instance, they privately sent their families to a distant fort, and then twelve hundred warriors, armed with bows and spears, prepared for the attack. They waited until it was night; then, dividing into several parties, they secretly approached the different settlements. The inhabitants, who had gone to rest in peace, and without fear, were suddenly waked by the dreadful war whoop. Men, women, and children were killed. The Indians, furious as tigers, ran from house to house, slaying all they met. Shrieks, prayers, and cries for mercy availed not. The innocent, the helpless, and the unresisting all perished alike.

29. A few only of the inhabitants escaped. These, with the cries of their murdered countrymen in their ears, fled swiftly through the woods, to the settlement in South Carolina, for assistance. About a thousand men were immediately despatched, under Colonel Barnwell, against the Indians. They had a long and tedious march; but at length they met the enemy. The latter fought bravely, but were defeated, and fled to the fortified town, where they had sent their women and children. Here the white

men pursued them, and were on the point of storming the place, when the Indians begged for peace. This was granted by Colonel Barnwell, and the white men returned to their homes.

30. But this peace did not last long; the Indians soon made war again, and Colonel Moore, with forty white men, and eight hundred friendly Indians, were sent against the enemy. The latter again fled to one of their fortified towns; but after a siege of several days, this was taken, with eight hundred prisoners. The Corees and Tuscaroras were now quite disheartened; they gave up their hopes of driving the white people from the country, and the former continued to be peaceable ever after. The latter, in 1713, bade adieu to the forests, and hills, and rivers, which they had once called their own, and moving to the north, joined the Five Nations. From this time these celebrated tribes were called the Six Nations. A remnant of the Tuscarora tribe may still be seen at Vernon, in the State of New York.

31. In 1729 the two Carolinas, which till this time had been one colony, were separated, and ever since they have remained distinct. The interior of North Carolina was soon explored, and finding it very fertile, many settlers established themselves there. The colony increased rapidly, and under a succession of good governors, it flourished till the approach of the revolutionary war, in 1775.

32. In 1732 one hundred and thirteen persons, under James Oglethorpe, came from England, and made the first settlement in Georgia. They established themselves at Yamacraw Bluff, and there laid the foundation of the present city of Savannah. The object of those persons in England who planned the settlement of Georgia was, to provide a place where the poor people of Great Britain

might go and live comfortably. They also desired to furnish an asylum, where the persecuted and oppressed of all nations might go and live in peace.

33. In 1733 five hundred poor people emigrated from England to Georgia, and in 1735 four hundred settlers came from Germany, Switzerland, and Scotland. Thus the number of inhabitants increased rapidly; but still the colony did not flourish. The greater part of the people remained poor, although half a million of dollars had been spent in sending them across the Atlantic, and in providing them with the necessaries and comforts of life.

34. In the year 1740 there was war between England and Spain. Now the latter government possessed Florida, and had several settlements there. Accordingly, Mr. Oglethorpe, the excellent governor of Georgia, determined to make war upon these Spanish settlements. So he took with him two thousand men, a part of them from Virginia and South Carolina, and proceeded against St. Augustine. This place he besieged; but the Spaniards defended themselves bravely, and he was obliged to march back again with his two thousand men.

35. Two years after this the Spaniards came with thirty vessels and three thousand soldiers, to punish the English settlers for their attack on St. Augustine. Their intention was to take possession of Georgia first, and the two Carolinas afterwards.

36. General Oglethorpe had but seven hundred men, and a small body of Indians under his command. Accordingly he sent to South Carolina for assistance; but the people would not send him any. So he and his little band were left to defend themselves, as well as they could, against four times their number. Oglethorpe knew his danger, and determined to scare the Spaniards away, if possible. He therefore contrived to make them believe

that he had more men than he actually had, and that a great body of English soldiers were coming to help him.

37. One day the Spaniards saw three vessels of war off the coast; supposing that these had brought the reinforcements, they became very much alarmed, ran aboard their ships as fast as possible, and sailed away. Thus Oglethorpe got rid of his troublesome visitors.

38. In 1754 the proprietors gave up the colony to the king, and after that time it prospered very much. The people began to cultivate rice and indigo, which they found very profitable. Sometimes the Florida Indians were troublesome, but no war of much interest occurred.

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## VI. FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.

1. THE old French war, as it is called in American history, commenced in 1755. At that period the country now occupied by New England, the five Middle States, and the four Southern States lying along the Atlantic embraced thirteen colonies, all belonging to Great Britain, and all acknowledging the government of that country. None of the country lying west of the states above mentioned was then occupied by English settlers.

2. The French had settlements in Canada, extending from the mouth of the St. Lawrence to Lake Ontario. Along the shores of that lake they had established several forts and trading houses, to promote their trade with the Indians, which was now esteemed a matter of great consequence. They had also planted New Orleans, near the mouth of the Mississippi, and having ascended that river, had laid claim to the beautiful and fertile valley through which it flows. They had also built trading houses on the

River Ohio, and had finally determined to connect their northern and southern settlements by a chain of forts, extending from Lake Ontario to their establishments on the Ohio, and thence down the River Mississippi to New Orleans.

3. While the French were busy in carrying this project into effect, some English people, from Virginia, established themselves on the Ohio River, not far from the French settlements. As the French now claimed the country, they seized some of these settlers, and carried them prisoners to Canada. The land in question was considered as a part of the colony of Virginia by the English, and it was supposed to belong to certain English people to whom it had been granted. These persons, regarding the conduct of the French as very wrong, applied to Governor Dinwiddie, of Virginia, for redress.

4. The governor thought it best, in the first place, to send a messenger to the commander of the French forces on the Ohio, and require him to march his troops away, and thus quit the country. The person chosen for this purpose was George Washington, then but twenty-one years old. At this early age he began that public career which has endeared his name to every American, and rendered it illustrious throughout the world.

5. Washington went to the French commander, and delivered to him a letter from Governor Dinwiddie, explaining the nature of his business. The French officer replied that he would forward the letter to his general, who was then in Canada, and that he should strictly abide by his instructions. This answer did not satisfy Governor Dinwiddie; so he raised four hundred troops, and sent them, under the command of Washington, against the French, in the spring of 1754. They proceeded through the woods, and over the mountains, till they came near

Fort Du Quesne, where Pittsburg, in Pennsylvania, now stands.

6. When Washington had nearly reached this fort, about nine hundred French soldiers came out to attack him. He had scarcely time to throw up some hasty works for defence before the French came upon him. The number of the French was more than double that of the English, but Washington did not mind that; he cheered his men, and they fought very bravely. By and by, the French were tired of the battle, and so they made an agreement with Washington, that he and his men should return to Virginia, which they did accordingly.

7. Being informed of all these things, the British government perceived that they must either drive the French away by force, or relinquish the whole Valley of the Mississippi. They determined to do the former, and sent out a great many troops to America to accomplish this object. In the spring of 1755, General Braddock, an English officer, began to make preparations, in Virginia, to proceed with a large army against Fort Du Quesne.

8. It is necessary for an army that is going on a march to have a great number of horses and wagons to carry their baggage. It was found very difficult to procure enough of these; and General Braddock, becoming impatient, determined to set out with a part of the army only. Accordingly he proceeded with twelve hundred men, leaving Colonel Dunbar to come on with the rest of the troops, as soon as the preparations were ready. General Braddock was a brave man, and knew very well how to manage a battle with regular soldiers; but he knew nothing of the Indian method of skulking behind trees, and rocks, and thickets, and shooting down men like so many squirrels.

9. So he proceeded through the woods, trusting in his own skill, and fearing nothing. He was advised to be on

his guard, lest the cunning savages should surprise him. But he treated this counsel with scorn. On the 9th of July, the English troops had approached within a few miles of Fort Du Quesne. At length they came to a narrow valley, with high rocks on each side. It was midsummer, and the trees were covered with a thick mantle of leaves. All was peaceful and quiet around, and the troops marched on, never dreaming that behind every bush, and rock, and tree around lay a lurking savage, taking a sure aim, and ready to send a fatal bullet after them.

10. At once a wild and hideous yell burst from the rocky sides of the valley, and at the same instant, hundreds of muskets flashed from the many hiding-places of the foe. Astounded at this, the forward ranks of the English were thrown into confusion. But in a few minutes General Braddock came up, with the main body of the army, and order was restored; but it was to no purpose. The enemy did not come out in regular platoons to be fired at, as General Braddock expected; they remained in their coverts, and shot down the British soldiers like a herd of deer.

11. Braddock was too proud to retreat. He and his officers remained on the ground, bravely exerting themselves to overcome the enemy; but in this they only sacrificed their lives. One by one they were shot down, and Braddock at length fell. The British soldiers then fled in dismay. Washington, with his Virginia troops, sheltered the retreating army from the French and Indians who pursued them. But for him nearly all the men under Braddock's command would have fallen a sacrifice to their commander's rashness. As it was, one half of the number perished in the battle. This disastrous enterprise was closed by a return of the troops to Philadelphia, leaving the frontier of Pennsylvania and Virginia exposed to the enemy.

12. Two other expeditions were undertaken against the French during the summer of 1755. One was against Fort Niagara, situated near the great cataract, and the other against Crown Point, an important post on the western shore of Lake Champlain. Both of these expeditions were unsuccessful.

13. In the spring of 1756 great preparations were made for war in America, both by the French and English; yet it is remarkable that the two nations in Europe yet continued to be on terms of the greatest apparent friendship. But this did not last long. England declared war in May, and France in June following. A great many troops were assembled in America; but instead of being placed under the command of American officers, who were well acquainted with the country, and who would of course be anxious to carry on the war with success, they were commanded by British officers, who spent a great deal of time in show and parade, but did very little else. The whole season was wasted in indolence on the part of the English, while the French prosecuted the war with activity and vigor.

14. The next year (1757) was like that which preceded it. The King and Parliament of Great Britain were jealous of the colonies at this early date. They were not willing to intrust Americans with the direction of their own affairs, and therefore continued to employ the officers who had exhibited nothing but indolence and weakness before.

15. The principal event of this campaign was the capture of Fort William Henry. This was situated on Lake George, and had a garrison of three thousand men, under the command of Colonel Munnroe. Fifteen miles to the south of this post was Fort Edward, on the east side of the Hudson River, occupied by General Webb, with four thousand troops.

16. The French commander, Montcalm, collected near ten thousand men, many of them Indians, and suddenly appeared before Fort William Henry. They came sailing down the lake, covering its bright surface with a multitude of boats and canoes. The whole army landed, and immediately began the attack.

17. Colonel Munroe was surprised, but not disheartened. Though his little garrison was surrounded by ten thousand men, he made a bold and successful defence. The soldiers kept off the enemy with muskets and with cannon, which shook the hills around with their thunder, and often sent death among the ranks of the besiegers. For six days the fort was thus defended; but Colonel Munroe knew he could not hold out long, unless assistance came from General Webb. He sent to that officer repeatedly, entreating him for help; but none came. Thus deserted in the most cowardly and cruel manner, he was obliged to surrender the fort to Montcalm. The English marched out of the fort, and the French took possession of it. But the saddest part of this story I have yet to tell. Montcalm promised to protect the English prisoners from the savages; but this he failed to do. The Indians first fell upon the sick, and plundered and killed them; thus they became excited, and surrounding the disarmed English soldiers, who had no means of defence, began to slay them also.

18. There were several thousands of the savages, and they now filled the air with their horrid yells. They struck down the English with their tomahawks, and tore the reeking scalps from their heads. As the slaughter proceeded, they grew more frantic. Their yells became still more wild, and these were now mingled with the shrieks of the wounded and the dying. At this awful moment, Munroe besought Montcalm to protect his poor

soldiers, as he had promised; but that officer would not interfere. His bloody allies were permitted to do their work of death without restraint. The carnage went on, and hundreds of the British soldiers were slaughtered, or carried captives into the wilderness.

19. The day after this fearful tragedy, Major Putnam was sent by General Webb to watch the motions of the enemy. They had already left the place, and set out for Ticonderoga. They had destroyed the fort, leaving the buildings still on fire. The ground, far and near, was covered with dead bodies, cut and mangled in the most shocking manner. Some were still broiling in the flames, and others were torn limb from limb. Thus ended this melancholy affair. Although it occurred near a hundred years ago, who, without shuddering, can read the detail of such barbarities?

20. The next year (1758) the war assumed a different aspect. William Pitt, a man of great talents, was placed at the head of affairs in England. He caused new officers to be appointed to the command of the armies, and the result showed that he selected them wisely. Louisburg, a strong town on the Island of Cape Breton, which had been before captured from the French in 1744, and afterwards restored to them, was taken by Lord Anherst, and Fort Du Quesne was taken by General Forbes.

21. Lord Abercrombie was sent, with an army of seventeen thousand men, against Ticonderoga. This was a strong French fort, on the western shore of Lake Champlain. The English army crossed the lake in boats. It was truly a magnificent display, as they covered the blue water, seemingly as countless as the wild fowl that sometimes hover over its surface.

22. But amid this proud array, there was many a heart, bounding with youth and hope, destined soon to beat no

more. When the English had landed, they marched towards the fort. They were met by a small party of the French, and in a skirmish that followed, Lord Howe was killed. He was a brave young officer, and all the soldiers loved him. When they saw him fall dead upon the field, they rushed forward, determined to avenge his death. They surrounded the fort, and attacked it with the greatest fury. They had muskets and cannon, and kept up a continual fire against the walls of the fort. If a Frenchman showed his head over the ramparts, he was immediately shot by the British soldiers.

23. They tried every means in their power to get possession of the place. They procured ladders, and attempted to climb over the walls. For four hours they stormed the fort with the utmost boldness and bravery; but it was defended with equal courage. The French poured down from the walls a dreadful fire of cannon and musketry. The noise of the battle was heard to the distance of fifty miles. It seemed like continued thunder; a thick cloud of smoke rose up from the place, and, stretching itself far across the sky, appeared to tell of the awful scene it had witnessed.

24. Finding it impossible to take the fort, Lord Abercrombie was forced to abandon the enterprise. Two thousand of his men had been killed or wounded; and with this heavy loss he retreated. He, however, despatched three thousand men, under Colonel Bradstreet, against Fort Frontenac, situated on Lake Ontario. This place was taken, and the French were thus deprived of a station of great importance.

25. In the next year (1759) several important places were taken by the English. Among these were the forts of Niagara, Ticonderoga, and Crown Point; but the most important event was the capture of Quebec. This place,

situated on the north-west side of the St. Lawrence, was deemed one of the strongest in the world. It was defended by a great many cannon, placed in several forts built upon high rocks. It was thought impossible for soldiers in any way to climb up these rocks, or to get possession of the fortifications.

26. But William Pitt believed that the place might be taken; so he sent a large and powerful army against it, commanded by General Wolfe. This officer was a young man, full of bold and daring thoughts. Three officers, Moncton, Townshend, and Murray, all young and brave like himself, were associated with him.

27. It was towards the last of June that the English army landed on the Island of Orleans, a few miles below Quebec. Here Wolfe had an opportunity to examine the difficulties he had to overcome. He perceived that they were very great, but declared to his friends that he would either take the city or die in the attempt. He devised various schemes, and made several efforts, but without success. Montcalm, the French commander, was exceedingly vigilant, and even the confident spirit of Wolfe began to be dejected.

28. But at length a narrow path was discovered, by which the soldiers might climb the Heights of Abraham, and thus overlook the forts and the town. Wolfe knew that if he could get possession of these heights, he should obtain a great advantage. Accordingly he resolved to make the attempt. But it was necessary that the enterprise should be conducted with the greatest secrecy.

29. In the stillness of night, a part of the army landed at the foot of the cliff which overhung the river. They were ready to climb the rocks by daybreak. Wolfe was himself among them, and they began their difficult task. Clambering up the steep, they caught hold of roots, bushes,

and angles of the rocks, and at length stood safe upon the plain above. Before sunrise the whole army had gained the heights, and were all arranged under their several leaders.

30. When Montcalm heard of all this, he thought it impossible, and would not believe the story; but he soon found it to be true. Knowing that he must now come to battle, he drew out his men upon the plain in front of the English army. When all was ready, the French advanced briskly. The English stood still, and received them with a dreadful fire. A fierce engagement followed, and after a long struggle, the French were defeated. Montcalm and Wolfe were both mortally wounded.

31. General Wolfe died on the field of battle. He had received a bullet in his wrist, and another in his leg; but he concealed these wounds, and pressed into the thickest of the fight; but by and by he was shot in the body, and carried off the field. When he was dying, he heard some one say, "They fly! they fly!" "Who fly?" asked he. "The French," was the answer. "Then I die contented," said the hero, and expired.

32. Five days after this battle Quebec surrendered to the English, and it has ever since remained in their possession. It has been the capital of the British possessions in America; but the governor, appointed by the king, now lives at Toronto.

33. The next year the French made some feeble attempts to recover Quebec, but without success. In September, Montreal was taken by the English, and in 1763 the war was closed by a peace, made at Paris. By this treaty France ceded to England all her northern colonies, and these still remain subject to Great Britain.

## VII.—THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR.

1. We are now coming to events of great interest and great importance. Soon after the French war the King and Parliament of Great Britain began to treat the colonies very unjustly. They had never conducted generously towards them; on the contrary, their proceedings had generally shown a desire to make them profitable to England, rather than prosperous and happy among themselves. Yet the people in this country loved England so well that they easily forgot these things: and it is probable that all might have gone on in harmony for many years, if the British government had not attempted to oppress and enslave the people.

2. It is hardly necessary to tell all the difficulties which preceded the war; but the principal one related to taxing the Americans. The British government, being very much in debt, wanted to raise large sums of money, and so determined to get a part of it by taxation. Now, the Americans maintained that England had no right to tax them. They thought it very hard, and very unjust, that Parliament, consisting of men who lived in England, at a distance of three thousand miles, should take away the money of the people here, just because they happened to want it. Yet this was what Parliament claimed the right to do, and they acted accordingly.

3. In opposing this the Americans were perfectly right; but still Parliament passed laws imposing duties upon various articles of merchandise brought into the country. These acts produced a great ferment throughout the colonies. The people of Boston were particularly excited; and fearing rebellion, General Gage, the British commander, assembled two regiments of soldiers to keep them in awe.

4. These troops took possession of the State House

without leave, and there they lived. They paraded about the streets, and filled the ears of the inhabitants with the constant din of their music. These were foreign soldiers, sent with cannon, muskets, and bayonets, to restrain a people who considered themselves free. It is easy to perceive that all this was not calculated to soothe their jealous feelings; on the contrary, it exasperated the people, and prepared them to take up arms against their oppressors.

5. Such was the state of irritation in Boston, in the spring of 1770, that quarrels occurred almost every day between the soldiers and the populace. On the 2d of March, as one of the British soldiers was going by the shop of one Gray, a ropemaker, he was beaten severely. He ran off, but returned with some of his comrades, and the soldiers and ropemakers fell together by the ears in good earnest. The latter got the worst of it.

6. The people were now more angry than ever. A great tumult broke out, between seven and eight o'clock, on the evening of the 5th of March. The mob, armed with clubs, ran towards King Street, now State Street, crying, "Let us drive out these rascals! They have no business here! Drive them out! Drive out the rascals!" About this time some one cried out that the town had been set on fire. Then the bells rang, and the crowd became greater and more noisy; they rushed furiously to the custom house, and seeing an English soldier stationed there, shouted, "Kill him! kill him!" The people attacked him with snowballs, pieces of ice, and whatever they could find.

7. The sentinel called for the guard, and Captain Preston sent a corporal with a few soldiers to defend him. They marched with their guns loaded, and the captain followed them. They met a crowd of the people, led on by

a giant of a negro, named Attucks; they brandished their clubs, and pelted the soldiers with snowballs, abused them with all manner of harsh words, shouted in their faces, surrounded them, and challenged them to fire.

8. They even rushed upon the points of the bayonets. The soldiers stood like statues, the bells ringing, and the mob pressing upon them. At last, Attucks, with twelve of his men, began to strike upon their muskets with clubs, and cried out to the multitude, "Don't be afraid! They dare not fire—the miserable cowards! Kill the rascals! Crush them under foot!" Attucks lifted his arm against Captain Preston, and seized upon a bayonet. "They dare not fire!" shouted the mob again. At this instant the firing began. The negro dropped dead upon the ground. The soldiers fired twice more. Three men were killed and others were wounded. The mob dispersed, but soon returned to carry off the bodies.

9. The whole town was now in an uproar. Thousands of men, women, and children rushed through the streets. The sound of drums, and cries of "To arms! to arms!" were heard from all quarters. The soldiers who had fired on the people were arrested, and the governor at last persuaded the multitude to go home quietly. The troops were ordered off to Castle William, now Fort Independence. The three slain citizens were buried with great ceremony on the 8th; the shops were all closed, while the bells in Boston and the towns around were all tolling.

10. The bodies were followed to the churchyard from King Street, through the city, by a long file of coaches, and an immense crowd of people on foot. The soldiers were soon after tried. Two were condemned and imprisoned; six of them were acquitted, much to the honor of the jury, and of John Adams and Josiah Quincy, who pleaded for them. The irritated and unreasonable popu-

lace would have torn the soldiers in pieces, if they could have had their way.

11. In March, 1770, the English Parliament concluded to repeal the duties upon glass, paint, and other articles, but continued a tax of threepence a pound upon tea. This was a sad mistake. If Parliament had repealed all, and said no more about taxes, the Americans might have been satisfied. As it was, they began to buy goods of the English merchants again, tea alone excepted; this they would have nothing to do with.

12. So matters went on during the year 1771. The officers of the revenue were every where despised. In Boston, one of them undertook to seize upon a vessel for some violation of the law. He was seized upon himself by the people, for what they thought a violation of the law, stripped, carted through the town, besmeared with tar, and covered with a coat of feathers, so that he looked more like an ostrich than a man.

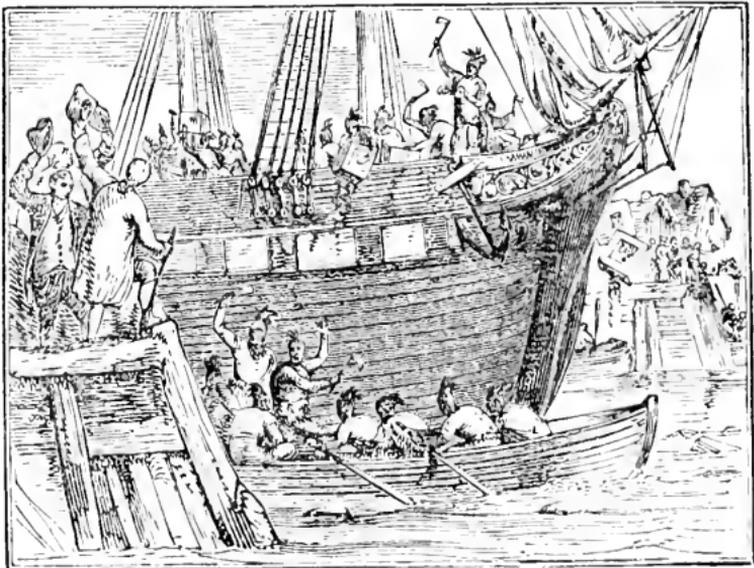
13. In 1772 the English government, intending to put down the rebellious spirit of the Americans, made several new laws, which only served to increase the difficulty. The Americans now began to think of doing something for themselves in earnest. Committees were chosen in every part of the country to attend to public affairs, and to write to each other.

14. In 1773 large ships, loaded with immense cargoes of tea, were sent out to America by some merchants in England. But the colonists had made up their minds what to do. In Philadelphia and New York not a man could be found to receive the English tea, or have any thing to do with it. A few chests, which one Captain Chambers had brought to Philadelphia, were let down very quietly to the bottom of the river, by some people who went slyly on board the ship. In Charleston it

was landed and lodged in cellars so damp that it was soon spoiled.

15. The people of Boston took a keen interest in this business. The English agents there, when the tea was first known to be on the way, were required by the people to give up all concern with it. They made no answer, but withdrew, as fast as convenient, into the fortress. Captain Hall soon arrived in port with one hundred chests of tea. The people collected in great fury, ordered him to keep it on board, as he valued his life, and placed a guard close by the vessel, upon Griffin's Wharf, east of Fort Hill.

16. Two other vessels, having arrived, were obliged to anchor by the side of Hall's ship. A town meeting, meanwhile, was summoned, and the people agreed to call upon the governor, and request him to have the ships sent off. But the governor would do no such thing. A great uproar now began. A person in the gallery of the hall, dressed like an Indian, shouted the cry of war.



Throwing the tea overboard.

17. The meeting was dissolved in the twinkling of an eye, and the multitude rushed to Griffin's Wharf. Here were seventeen sea captains, carpenters, and others, disguised as Indians. It was night, and these persons went on board the three vessels, and in less than two hours, three hundred and forty chests of tea were staved and emptied into the sea. This done, they went quietly home, and the crowd dispersed, very well satisfied.

18. Early in 1774, an account of these disturbances having reached England, the government then determined, by way of punishing the people of Boston, to destroy the trade of that town by forbidding all kinds of goods to be landed there. Accordingly the Boston Port<sup>1</sup> Bill was passed in Parliament, and the news of it was received in Boston May 10. Like other unjust laws, this also did more hurt than good.

19. In a few days after the Port Bill was passed, other laws were made, still more severe. They were opposed in England by some persons; but a large part, both of the Parliament and the people, supposed, if the Americans were punished and pretty well frightened, they would, by and by, be more submissive to the mother country. This was another sad mistake.

20. Not only the people of Boston, but the whole people of America,—north, south, east, and west,—were more indignant than ever. Town meetings were held, days of fasting appointed, and news of the Port Bill spread over the whole country. An agreement to stop all trade with England, called the "league and covenant," was signed by immense numbers.

21. Those who refused to sign it were hooted at as

<sup>1</sup> The "Boston Port Bill" was a law declaring that no person should be allowed to land or discharge, or to ship any wares or merchandise at the port of Boston.

enemies of the country. General Gage, at Boston, issued a proclamation against the league, and declared it treasonable. But these were mere words ; and the Bostonians published, in return, that the general's proclamation was treason.

22. On the 1st of June the Port Bill was put in force. At midday all business ceased in the custom house ; no vessel was suffered to enter the harbor. Very little was now done, for the rich had no money to spare, and the poor had no employment. The soldiers paraded the streets in triumph.

23. But the Bostonians were not forgotten. The country was awake on all sides. The 1st of June was kept as a fast day in many places. In Philadelphia the shops were shut and the bells tolled. The people of Marblehead and Salem offered the Boston merchants their harbors, wharves, and warehouses, free of all cost ; and large sums of money, and other things, collected in all parts of the country, were sent into Boston.

24. Serious preparations began to be made for war. People provided themselves with arms, formed companies, and learned, as fast as possible, the business of soldiers. Being most of them used to hunting, they were good marksmen. Every where nothing was heard but the noise of drums and fifes. Fathers and sons, young and old, became soldiers ; and even women and girls set about casting balls and making cartridges.

25. Meanwhile the jealousy of the people towards the soldiers continued to increase. Even the children caught the general feeling, as a story will show you. During the winter, before the Port Bill passed, the boys were in the habit of building hills of snow on the common, and sliding down upon them to the pond. The English troops beat down these hills, merely to provoke the children. The boys complained of the injury, and set about repair-

ing it. However, when they returned from school they found the snow hills beaten down again.

26. Several of the boys now waited upon the British captain, and informed him of the conduct of his soldiers; but he would have nothing to say to them, and the soldiers were more impudent than ever. At last they called a meeting of the largest boys, and sent them to General Gage, commander-in-chief.

27. He asked why so many children had called upon him. "We came, sir," said the tallest boy, "to demand satisfaction." "What!" said the general; "have your fathers been teaching you rebellion, and sent you to show it here?" "Nobody sent us, sir," answered the boy, while his cheek reddened and his eye flashed; "we have never injured nor insulted your troops; but they have trodden down our snow hills and broken the ice on our skating ground. We complained, and they called us young rebels, and told us to help ourselves if we could. We told the captain of this, and he laughed at us. Yesterday our works were destroyed for a third time; and, sir, we will bear it no longer."

28. The general looked at them with admiration, and said to an officer at his side, "The very children draw in a love of liberty with the air they breathe. You may go, my brave boys; and be assured if my troops trouble you again, they shall be punished."

29. The people in all parts of the country were resolved to resist the oppression of the British government. Slowly and reluctantly had they come to the decision; but now that the spirit of the nation was roused, they were ready to go into the field, and shed their blood in the sacred cause of liberty. In this state of things nothing was wanting but some occasion which might call the feelings of the people into action; and this was not long

delayed. There were some military stores at Concord, about eighteen miles from Boston, belonging to the Americans. These General Gage wished to destroy; and for this purpose he sent about eight hundred grenadiers and light infantry from Boston, at eleven o'clock in the evening of the 18th of April, 1775.

30. Notice of this was immediately carried into the country. By two o'clock in the morning, one hundred and thirty of the Lexington militia had assembled on the green, at the meeting house, to oppose them. They were dismissed, but collected again between four and five, at the beat of the drum. By and by, the body of British troops came marching up the road, led by two or three officers, who called upon the Americans to throw down their arms and disperse. As these orders were not instantly obeyed,



British troops firing on the Americans at Lexington.

a volley was fired, by which eight of the Americans were killed and several wounded. The survivors scattered at once, and the British regulars marched on to Concord.

31. At Concord they disabled two cannon, threw five hundred pounds of ball into the wells, and staved about sixty barrels of flour. They fired upon the Concord militia, under Major Buttrick's command. Two men were killed; a skirmish followed, and the English retreated as fast as possible to Lexington. By this time the people were coming upon them from all parts of the country. The British were fired upon on all sides, from sheds, houses, and fences.

32. At Lexington, where they halted to rest, they were joined by nine hundred more troops, sent out from Boston, under Lord Percy. These brought two cannon with them; and the country people were kept back. They still fired upon the troops, however, and being generally good marksmen, made terrible havoc. The regulars, as the English troops were called, reached Charlestown at sunset, and returned the next day into Boston. Sixty-five of their number had been killed, one hundred and eighty wounded, and twenty-eight made prisoners.

33. Of the provincials, fifty were killed and thirty-eight wounded and missing. There were never more than three or four hundred of the latter fighting at one time, and they fought as they pleased, without order. The regulars were obliged to keep in the main road; but the militia, knowing every inch of the country, flanked them, and fired upon them at all the corners.

34. The news of this first battle produced a tremendous excitement throughout the country. The dead were buried with great ceremony. Large bodies of militia marched towards Boston, and agreements were entered into, by thousands of people, to defend the Bostonians to the last gasp.

35. Every body was armed and ready to fight. When the news of the Lexington battle reached Barnstable, a

company of militia started off for Cambridge at once. In the front was a young man, the only child of an old farmer. As they came to the old gentleman's house, they halted a moment. The drum and fife ceased. The farmer came out with his gray head bare. "God be with you all," said he; "and you, John, if you must fight, fight like a man, or never let me see you again." The old man gave him his blessing. The brave fellow brushed a tear from his eye, and the company marched on.

36. The excitement produced by the battle of Lexington extended throughout the colonies. The news, for instance, reached a small town in Connecticut on the morning of the Sabbath. It was nearly time to go to meeting, when the beating of a drum and the ringing of the bell attracted the attention of the people.

37. In expectation that some great event was about to happen, every unusual signal had a startling effect. When the drum and the bell were heard, therefore, the men came running to the meeting house green in breathless haste. Soon the clergyman was among them, and they were all told that some of their countrymen had been shot by the British soldiers at Lexington. The faces of the men, as they heard it, were pale, but not from fear. It was immediately resolved that thirty persons should be equipped, and should set out for Boston. Those who could best go were selected, and went home to make preparations.

38. At noon they had all returned to the little lawn in front of the meeting house. There was a crowd of people around. There were friends, and acquaintances, and wives and children. Such as were not well supplied with clothes and equipments were immediately furnished by their neighbors. Among the crowd there was one remarkable individual. This was a rich old miser, who

was never known to part with his money but with extreme reluctance. On the present occasion his nature seemed changed. He took several of the soldiers apart, whom he supposed likely to be destitute, and put into their hands about thirty dollars in hard cash, at the same time saying, in a low voice, "Beat the rascals! beat them! If you come back, perhaps you will pay me; if not, God bless you."

39. After all the arrangements were made, the soldiers entered the broad aisle of the church. An affecting and fervent prayer was then offered by the clergyman, in behalf of the country, and in behalf of these brave men, that were about to enter upon the dangerous chances of war. After the prayer, he made a short but animated address, encouraging the men to do their duty. He pronounced a blessing, and then they departed.

40. General Putnam, a brave man, lived at that time at Brooklyn, in Connecticut. He was a farmer, and was ploughing in the field when the tidings from Lexington were brought to him. He did not stay even to unyoke his cattle; but leaving the plough in the unfinished furrow, he went to his house, gave some hasty directions respecting his affairs, mounted his horse, and with a rapid pace proceeded to Boston.

41. In the course of a few weeks about thirty thousand men had arrived from various parts of the country. They were, indeed, poorly armed, but they were full of resolution. Most of them were farmers and mechanics, who had spent their lives in peace, and knew nothing of war. But the blood of their countrymen had been spilled, and they had come to avenge their death. They had no cannon, no leaders, but little ammunition, and many of them had no guns. But in spite of these deficiencies, they were

full of courage, and ready, as soon as an opportunity offered, to meet the British troops in open battle.

42. The country at that time was not, as now, full of wealth, and covered with large towns and cities. Boston, New York, Philadelphia, and other large places, were then comparatively small. The country was poor, and the whole number of inhabitants, throughout the thirteen colonies, was scarcely three millions; yet they were about to engage in a strife with Great Britain, the most powerful nation on the earth.

43. That country had a great many ships of war, and the Americans had none. It had powerful armies, skilful generals, and an abundance of all the materials for carrying on a war. Such were, indeed, the poverty and apparent weakness of America, such the mighty power of England, that in Europe it was generally believed that the Americans must be crushed in the struggle. But our brave fathers thought differently. They knew the power of England, but they knew also that the race is not always to the swift, nor the battle to the strong. Placing their confidence in Heaven and the justice of their cause, they entered boldly into the contest, and, as we shall see in the end, triumphed over their oppressors.

44. The war having been opened by the battle of Lexington, the Americans determined to prosecute it, on their part, with vigor. They sent some soldiers, under the command of Colonels Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold, against two British forts, Ticonderoga and Crown Point. On the arrival of Allen at the former place, he demanded the surrender of the fort. "By what authority?" asked the commander. "I demand it," said Allen, "in the name of the Great Jehovah, and of the Continental Congress." The summons was instantly obeyed, and the fort was, with its valuable stores, instantly surrendered. The capture of

Crown Point soon followed. The militia invested Boston, and pretty soon the British troops, of which there were several thousand in that town, began to feel a little uncom-



Colonel Ethan Allen demanding the surrender of Ticonderoga.

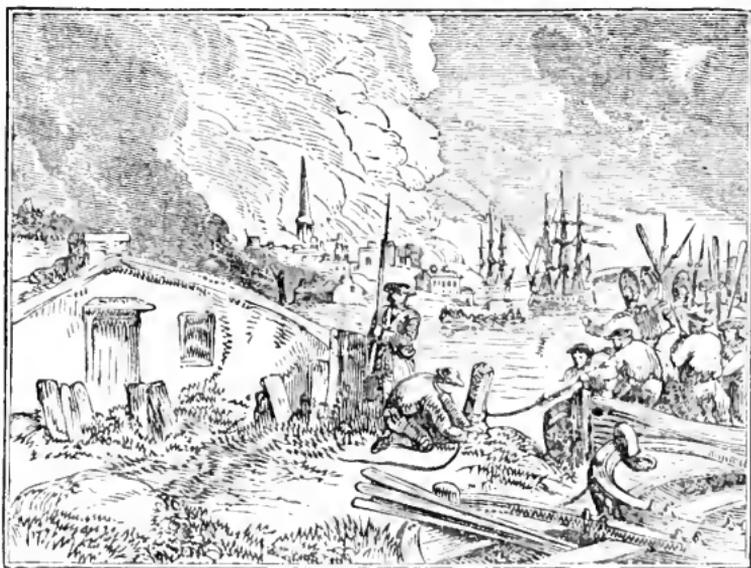
fortable. The Americans had two or three old rusty cannon, with which they blazed away upon the enemy, making a good deal of noise, and doing some execution.

45. General Gage did not like to be cooped up in Boston with his men; so he determined to cut through the militia with his troops, and take up some station in the country. To prevent this, the Americans sent a thousand men by night to occupy Bunker Hill, situated in Charlestown. By some mistake they passed Bunker Hill and advanced to Breed's Hill, at the southern end of the peninsula, and much nearer Boston. At midnight they began to erect intrenchments; and working with all their might, they had thrown up a small redoubt, eight rods square, by the dawn of day. The British were utterly astonished when they saw what was going on. Knowing that the

Americans could fire their cannon balls down upon them from the hill, they saw the necessity of immediately driving them away, if possible.

46. It was now the 17th of June, and the British troops were soon put in motion. The whole town of Boston resounded with the noise of drums and fifes. Heavy columns of soldiers marched along the streets, and entered the boats to cross over to Breed's Hill. A great many cannon from the British ships and other places opened their fire upon the Americans, and the balls went booming through the air, ploughing up the ground, but doing little damage.

47. The Americans knew what was coming, and, like men not to be turned from their purpose, labored steadily at their works. There were Prescott, Putnam, Warren, and other brave leaders among them. There were no idle



Burning of Charlestown and landing of the British troops.

hands, there were no coward hearts there; every man entered with his whole soul into the business at this awful crisis.

48. At length the British landed; some of them entered Charlestown, and set it on fire. The flames ran from house to house, until the whole town was involved in one vast blaze. Pretty soon the troops began to advance up the hill towards the Americans. The latter were now ready, and having placed themselves behind their breastworks, lay waiting for the enemy. There were gray-haired old men, with their sons and grandsons near them; neighbors, friends, and brothers stood side by side.

49. The British advanced bravely. They were led by General Howe and other gallant officers. With steady confidence they marched towards the American lines. It was an awful moment. Thousands and thousands of people covered the hills, and houses, and steeples of Boston, that they might see the fight. The cannon, for a few minutes, ceased their roar; every thing around seemed to pause and look with breathless interest upon the scene.

50. The British came on. The stillness of death rested



The battle of Bunker Hill.

upon the American lines. At length the enemy had approached within a few rods, when, at a given signal, a thousand bullets were suddenly sent among their ranks. For a few seconds the Americans kept up a deadly fire, and the British were obliged to retreat. But they soon rallied, and came again upon the Americans. They were again driven back. Still a third time they rallied, and the Americans, having used up all their powder and ball, fought for some time with the but-ends of their muskets, and then reluctantly retreated.

51. In this battle ten hundred and fifty-four of the British were killed and wounded; of the Americans, four hundred and fifty-three. The British officers were astonished at the result; they had before despised the Americans, and never imagined that a collection of people, who had not learned the art of war, commanded by no experienced officers, and but poorly provided with arms and ammunition, could make such havoc among disciplined troops.

52. This battle, though it was fought on Breed's Hill, is called the battle of Bunker Hill. The Americans were driven back; but this happened only because their ammunition was expended. It gave the people great courage, for it showed that they could beat the British regulars in a fair fight. Yet the Americans, though they rejoiced at their partial success, had much occasion for sorrow. Many of their friends and neighbors had been killed, and among these was General Warren, who was greatly beloved by all the people.

53. The people of the colonies, finding it necessary to have some general government, had sent some of their wisest men to Philadelphia, to manage public affairs. These were called the Continental Congress. They appointed George Washington, of Virginia, commander-in-

chief of the American armies ; and in about a fortnight after the battle of Bunker Hill he reached Cambridge, which is three miles from Boston. He found about fourteen thousand militia in the neighborhood, and immediately exerted himself to teach them the art of war.

54. During the latter part of the year 1775 two expeditions were sent against Canada ; one, consisting of three thousand men, was put under the command of General Schuyler, and went by the way of Lake Champlain ; the other, consisting of eleven hundred men, and commanded by General Arnold, went up the Kennebec River, and crossed the wilderness to Quebec. The soldiers under the command of Arnold suffered incredible hardships. For several days they were almost entirely destitute of food, and many of them were nearly starved to death. Yet these privations were borne with fortitude, and the men at length reached Quebec.

55. An attack was finally made upon that place ; but General Arnold being wounded, and General Montgomery killed, it failed of success. After many vicissitudes, the American troops were obliged to return, without having accomplished the objects of the two expeditions in which they had been engaged.

56. The spring of 1776 opened with favorable prospects for the Americans. General Washington managed so well, that in March General Howe, with all the British troops, was forced to quit Boston. On the 17th the fleet set sail for Halifax, and the American troops entered the town.

57. On the 4th of July of this year Congress made a solemn declaration that the people of America would submit to the government of England no more, but that they would be a free and independent nation. This is called the Declaration of Independence. It was hailed by the

inhabitants with the greatest joy, and the day is still celebrated every 4th of July. From this time, each of the colonies became a state, and, joined together under the general government of Congress, they became a free nation, under the name of the United States of America.

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#### DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE.

IN CONGRESS, JULY 4, 1776.

*The Unanimous Declaration of the Thirteen United States of America.*

WHEN, in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes which impel them to the separation.

We hold these truths to be self-evident:—That all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness; that, to secure these rights, governments are instituted among men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed; that, whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or to abolish it, and to institute a new government, laying its foundation on such principles, and organizing its powers in such form, as to them shall seem most likely to effect their safety and happiness. Prudence, indeed, will dictate that governments long established should not be changed for light and transient causes; and accordingly all experience hath shown that mankind are more disposed to suffer while evils are sufferable, than to right them-

selves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed. But when a long train of abuses and usurpations, pursuing invariably the same object, evinces a design to reduce them under absolute despotism, it is their right, it is their duty, to throw off such government, and to provide new guards for their future security. Such has been the patient sufferance of these colonies; and such is now the necessity which constrains them to alter their former systems of government. The history of the present King of Great Britain is a history of repeated injuries and usurpations, all having in direct object the establishment of an absolute tyranny over these states. To prove this, let facts be submitted to a candid world.

He has refused his assent to laws the most wholesome and necessary for the public good.

He has forbidden his governors to pass laws of immediate and pressing importance, unless suspended in their operation till his assent should be obtained; and when so suspended, he has utterly neglected to attend to them. He has refused to pass other laws for the accommodation of large districts of people, unless those people would relinquish the right of representation in the legislature — a right inestimable to them, and formidable to tyrants only.

He has called together legislative bodies at places unusual, uncomfortable, and distant from the repository of their public records, for the sole purpose of fatiguing them into compliance with his measures.

He has dissolved representative houses repeatedly, for opposing, with manly firmness, his invasions on the rights of the people.

He has refused, for a long time after such dissolutions, to cause others to be elected; whereby the legislative powers, incapable of annihilation, have returned to the

people at large for their exercise; the state remaining, in the mean time, exposed to all the dangers of invasion from without and convulsions within.

He has endeavored to prevent the population of these states; for that purpose obstructing the laws for naturalization of foreigners, refusing to pass others to encourage their migration hither, and raising the conditions of new appropriations of lands.

He has obstructed the administration of justice, by refusing his assent to laws for establishing judiciary powers.

He has made judges dependent on his will alone for the tenure of their offices, and the amount and payment of their salaries.

He has erected a multitude of new offices, and sent hither swarms of officers, to harass our people and eat out their substance.

He has kept among us, in times of peace, standing armies, without the consent of our legislatures.

He has affected to render the military independent of and superior to the civil power.

He has combined with others to subject us to a jurisdiction foreign to our constitution, and unacknowledged by our laws; giving his assent to their acts of pretended legislation,—

For quartering large bodies of armed troops among us:

For protecting them, by a mock trial, from punishment for any murders which they should commit on the inhabitants of these states:

For cutting off our trade with all parts of the world:

For imposing taxes on us without our consent:

For depriving us, in many cases, of the benefits of trial by jury:

For transporting us beyond seas to be tried for pretended offences:

For abolishing the free system of English laws in a neighboring province, establishing therein an arbitrary government, and enlarging its boundaries, so as to render it at once an example and fit instrument for introducing the same absolute rule into these colonies :

For taking away our charters, abolishing our most valuable laws, and altering, fundamentally, the forms of our governments :

For suspending our own legislatures, and declaring themselves invested with power to legislate for us in all cases whatsoever.

He has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us.

He has plundered our seas, ravaged our coasts, burned our towns, and destroyed the lives of our people.

He is at this time transporting large armies of foreign mercenaries to complete the works of death, desolation, and tyranny, already begun with circumstances of cruelty and perfidy scarcely paralleled in the most barbarous ages, and totally unworthy the head of a civilized nation.

He has constrained our fellow-citizens, taken captive on the high seas, to bear arms against their country, to become the executioners of their friends and brethren, or to fall themselves by their hands.

He has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontier the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is an undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions.

In every stage of these oppressions we have petitioned for redress in the most humble terms ; our repeated petitions have been answered only by repeated injury. A prince, whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people.

Nor have we been wanting in attentions to our British brethren. We have warned them, from time to time, of attempts by their legislature to extend an unwarrantable jurisdiction over us. We have reminded them of the circumstances of our emigration and settlement here. We have appealed to their native justice and magnanimity; and we have conjured them, by the ties of our common kindred, to disavow these usurpations, which would inevitably interrupt our connections and correspondence. They, too, have been deaf to the voice of justice and of consanguinity. We must, therefore, acquiesce in the necessity which denounces our separation, and hold them, as we hold the rest of mankind, enemies in war, in peace friends.

We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled, appealing to the Supreme Judge of the world for the rectitude of our intentions, do, in the name and by the authority of the good people of these colonies, solemnly publish and declare, that these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British crown, and that all political connection between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved; and that, as free and independent states, they have full power to levy war, conclude peace, contract alliances, establish commerce, and to do all other acts and things which independent states may of right do. And, for the support of this declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our lives, our fortunes, and our sacred honor.

JOHN HANCOCK.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.	MASSACHUSETTS BAY.	RHODE ISLAND, ETC.
Josiah Bartlett,	Samuel Adams,	Stephen Hopkins,
William Whipple,	John Adams,	William Ellery.
Matthew Thornton.	Robert Treat Paine,	
	Elbridge Gerry.	

CONNECTICUT.	Benjamin Franklin,	Thomas Jefferson,
Roger Sherman,	John Morton,	Benjamin Harrison,
Samuel Huntington,	George Clymer,	Thomas Nelson, Jr.,
William Williams,	James Smith,	Francis Lightfoot Lee,
Oliver Wolcott.	George Taylor,	Carter Braxton.
	James Wilson,	
NEW YORK.	George Ross.	NORTH CAROLINA.
William Floyd,		William Hooper,
Philip Livingston,	DELAWARE.	Joseph Hewes,
Francis Lewis,	Cæsar Rodney,	John Penn.
Lewis Morris.	George Read,	
	Thomas M'Kean.	SOUTH CAROLINA.
NEW JERSEY.		Edward Rutledge,
Richard Stockton,	MARYLAND.	Thomas Heyward, Jr.
John Witherspoon,	Samuel Chase,	Thomas Lynch, Jr.,
Francis Hopkinson,	William Paca,	Arthur Middleton.
John Hart,	Thomas Stone,	
Abraham Clark.	C. Carroll, of Carrollton.	GEORGIA.
		Button Gwinnett,
PENNSYLVANIA.	VIRGINIA.	Lyman Hall,
Robert Morris,	George Wythe,	George Walton.
Benjamin Rush,	Richard Henry Lee,	

58. At this time the hopes and the courage of the country were very high; but these were soon depressed by great misfortunes. In August a powerful British army came, in ships, against New York. Washington was there, with many troops; but after a great deal of fighting at Brooklyn and at White Plains, he was forced to quit the place, and give it up to the British. Several American forts were also taken, and the provincial army, now very much reduced, retreated to New Jersey.

59. The British officers thought the war nearly finished, and large numbers of the American people feared that the power of England was about to triumph over the liberties of the country. One event, however, revived a little their sinking courage. In December, General Washington, being on the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware, with the

American troops, suddenly crossed that river to Trenton. At this place there were about one thousand soldiers, who came from Hesse, in Germany, and were called Hessians.



Washington crossing the Delaware.

They had been hired by the British, and came to this country to fight for them against the Americans. Washington came suddenly upon them, and took nine hundred prisoners.

60. In January, 1777, Washington attacked some British troops at Princeton, killed one hundred men, and took three hundred prisoners. In this battle, James Monroe, who was afterwards president of the United States, was wounded. Washington himself, whose bravery led him into the midst of the fight, was placed in great danger, but escaped unhurt. The British were so much astonished at these bold and sudden enterprises, that they retreated to New Brunswick, and left the American army to take up their winter quarters quietly at Morristown.

61. In September of this year General Howe left New

York with a strong British force, in a great many ships. These entered Chesapeake Bay, and the troops proceeded towards Philadelphia. Washington met them at every point, and fought several battles. But the Americans were obliged to retreat, and the British entered Philadelphia on the 26th.

62. About the time that these events occurred, others of great importance were taking place in the north. General Burgoyne, a famous British officer, set out from Canada with one of the finest armies that was ever known, intending to proceed to New York across the country, by way of Lake Champlain. General Gates assembled a considerable force to oppose him. The brave inhabitants left their farms, and came in hundreds to assist him. Several skirmishes took place, and on the 16th of August, a detachment sent by Burgoyne to destroy some stores at Bennington was totally defeated.

63. On the 18th of September a fierce battle was fought at Stillwater, near Saratoga. On the 7th of October another battle was fought. The greatest bravery was displayed on both sides, and night only terminated the conflict. Burgoyne retreated to the heights of Saratoga, and the Americans pursued him. The situation of the British troops was now distressing. Many of their officers had been killed; they were surrounded by active enemies, and they had only food enough left for three days. Having no hope of escape, they were obliged to surrender; and on the 17th of October, the whole army, consisting of six thousand men, laid down their arms. This was a great event, and, amid many losses and reverses, sustained the hopes of the American people.

64. The year 1778 opened with an event which occasioned great joy in America. In February the government of France acknowledged the independence of the

colonies, and promised to send ships, troops, cannon, guns, and ammunition, to assist them. The government of Great Britain, hearing of this, and being alarmed by the defeat and capture of their favorite general, Burgoyne, and his army, determined, if possible, to make up the quarrel with America. Accordingly they sent some men to Philadelphia, to arrange the business with Congress.

65. They offered to grant all that the Americans had claimed, to lay no more taxes, and to repeal all their unjust and offensive laws. But now that the people had suffered so much, Congress would not listen to these terms. The English agents, finding that they could not succeed in this way, attempted to bribe Joseph Reed, one of the members. They offered him a great deal of money, and a rich office, if he would bring about a reconciliation between the two countries.

66. But Mr. Reed was an honest man: he loved his country, and would not sell his conscience for gold or power. He replied to the unworthy offer, "I am not worth purchasing; but poor as I am, your king has not money enough to buy me." Such noble conduct as this was not uncommon among the true-hearted patriots of our glorious revolution. The brave fighting, the daring courage, the bold enterprise of our soldiers did not contribute more to the salvation of our country, in that day of trial, than the steadfast truth and fidelity of our public men.

67. In June that part of the British army which was in Philadelphia left that city, and marched across the country to New York. Washington, with his troops, forsook his log huts in the woods, and pursued them. At Monmouth, a fierce battle was fought, in which the British had the worst of the battle, five hundred of their men being killed and wounded. Sir Henry Clinton, the British commander, stole away with his troops by night, and escaped to New York.

68. In July Count d'Estaing came with a large French fleet, to assist the Americans ; but he effected nothing, and at the close of the season sailed for the West Indies.

69. Wyoming, a beautiful little district in Pennsylvania, situated in what is the present county of Luzerne, embraced a few small villages, the people of which were almost wholly occupied in agriculture. They were surrounded with charming forests, and bright meadows, and green hills, and sparkling rivulets ; all around was happiness, peace, and plenty. But this lovely spot was destined to become the scene of cruelties scarcely equalled in the history of human warfare.

70. The British officers and soldiers had become very bitter in their feelings towards the Americans. The capture of Burgoyne had wounded their pride, and their general bad fortune irritated and exasperated them. Above all, the French, whom they hated most cordially, had now taken part with the Americans. Acting under the influence of their imbittered feelings, they conducted the war, in many instances, rather as if they were fighting with savages than with civilized men.

71. The people of Wyoming had sent some of their men to fight against the British, and for this they were to be scourged. A band of four hundred Indians, and about as many tories, were sent against them. The inhabitants heard of their danger, but too late for effectual defence. They, however, threw up some hasty breastworks, and gathered their families into them. The enemy at length appeared before one of the forts, and pretended that they wished to make peace. They invited the commander to come out for this purpose ; so he and the soldiers went to meet them, at a place appointed in the woods ; but when they reached the spot not an Indian nor a tory was there ; they pressed on through the dark paths of the forests, but found no one.

72. At last they saw themselves surrounded by the enemy. The savages were in every bush. They sprang out upon them, uttering terrible yells. All but sixty, of four hundred men, were murdered with the most horrible cruelty. The enemy then went back to the fort, and, to frighten the people within, hurled over the gates the scalps of their husbands, brothers, and fathers. They now inquired of the leader of the tories what terms he would give them. He answered only, "The hatchet!" They fought as long as possible, but the enemy soon enclosed the fort with dry wood, and then set it on fire. The unhappy people within were involved in the flames, and they all perished — men, women, and children — in the awful blaze. The whole Wyoming country was now ravaged. The people were scalped; the harvests, houses, and orchards were burned; even the tongues of the horses and cattle were cut out, and the poor creatures left to perish.

73. The year 1779 was distinguished by no remarkable occurrences. The English took Savannah; and, when the French and Americans attempted to recapture the city, they were repulsed with severe loss. General Tryon afterwards proceeded to New Haven, and burned the towns of Fairfield and Norwalk.

74. In February, 1779, Governor Tryon, with fifteen hundred men, proceeded from Kingsbridge, thirteen miles above New York, into Connecticut, as far as Horseneck, a part of Greenwich, where he plundered the inhabitants, and destroyed their salt works. General Putnam, happening to be in that vicinity, hastily collected a small number of men, whom he employed at firing upon the enemy with a couple of field-pieces, from the high ground near the meeting house. At length, however, a detachment of the enemy was ordered to charge upon Putnam

and his men. Ordering the latter to make good their retreat to a neighboring swamp, he himself put spurs to his horse, and plunged down the precipice at the church. This was so steep as to have artificial stairs, composed of nearly one hundred stone steps, for the accommodation of worshippers ascending to the sanctuary. On the arrival of the dragoons at the brow of the hill they paused,



Escape of Putnam at Horseneck.

thinking it too dangerous to follow the steps of the adventurous hero. Before any could go round the hill and descend, Putnam had escaped, uninjured by the many balls which were fired at him in his descent. But one touched him, and that only passed through his hat.

75. In August General Sullivan marched against the Indians in the western part of the State of New York. These had taken part with the British, and had committed many acts of cruelty and violence upon the inhabitants of the country. The American troops went to chastise them for this conduct. At this time the whole country

from Utica westward, was inhabited only by savages. Yet General Sullivan found that these had very comfortable houses, a great many peach and apple trees, and very fine fields of corn. But it was his duty to destroy them. He set the villages on fire, and laid the whole country waste. He then returned with his men to his quarters in Pennsylvania.

76. On the 12th of May, 1780, Charleston, in South Carolina, surrendered to the British, after a gallant defence by General Lincoln. Several battles took place during the season in North and South Carolina, in most of which the Americans were defeated.

77. In July, Count de Rochambeau, with six thousand French troops, arrived in Rhode Island, and marched across the country to join Washington, near New York. These troops were welcomed by the inhabitants with great joy. When they encamped at night, though most of them were weary, there were many of them still ready to spend an hour in amusement. Some green spot was selected, a violin was brought, and the village maidens joined gayly in the dance with the polite Frenchmen.

78. Washington had hoped, with the assistance of the French troops, to retake New York; but the British assembled so great a force there that it was thought imprudent to undertake it. Thus the season passed, the Americans having gained nothing, and lost much. The hopes of the country were indeed very much depressed; nor did it revive them to learn that one of their generals had become a traitor to his country. This was Benedict Arnold, the same man who led an army into Canada in 1775. He was a very bold and intrepid man; but he was selfish and unprincipled. He held the command of a very important fort at West Point. He signified to the British his willingness to give up the fort, and Major

André, a fine young officer, was sent privately to make a bargain with him. It was agreed that Arnold should put the British in possession of the fort, and that they should give him fifty thousand dollars and a general's command in the British army.

79. When all things were arranged, André secretly set out to return; but on arriving at Tarrytown, a place thirty miles north of New York, he was met by three militia soldiers, John Paulding, David Williams, and Isaac Van Wert. He showed them his passport, and they suffered him to continue his route. Immediately after this, one of these three men, thinking that he perceived something singular in the person of the traveller, called him



Capture of Major André.

back. André asked them where they were from. "From down below," they replied, intending to say from New York. Too frank to suspect a snare, André immediately answered, "And so am I." Upon this they arrested him, when he declared himself to be a British officer, and

offered them his watch, and all the gold he had with him, to be released. But, poor and obscure as these soldiers were, they were not to be bribed. Resolutely refusing his offers, they conducted him to Lieutenant Colonel Jameson, their commanding officer. Jameson injudiciously permitted André to write to Arnold, who immediately escaped on board the British sloop-of-war *Vulture*, and took refuge in New York. André was tried and condemned as a spy, and hung upon a gallows. The name of Benedict Arnold has ever since been branded with infamy.

80. During the spring of 1781 a great many battles and skirmishes were fought in North and South Carolina. The British were commanded by Lord Cornwallis, and the Americans by General Greene. The latter were frequently defeated, yet they were never discouraged; and the result of the whole campaign was highly advantageous to the American cause.

81. About this time Arnold, the traitor, was sent with some British troops against New London. They took Fort Griswold by assault, and after the garrison had surrendered, murdered nearly the whole of them in cold blood. They then burned New London to the ground, and returned to New York. But the period of British triumph was fast drawing to a close.

82. In the summer of 1781 Lord Cornwallis was stationed at Yorktown, in Virginia, with ten thousand British troops. Washington was near New York, making preparations to attack that city, where Sir Henry Clinton held the command. But his army being too small, he determined to march to the south against Cornwallis. Accordingly he set out with the army; and before Sir Henry Clinton suspected his design, he had already crossed the Delaware. Washington marched on, and was joined by a large number of French troops, who had just arrived in the Chesapeake, under Count de Grasse.

83. The combined army amounted to sixteen thousand men. Cornwallis was sheltered by strong fortifications; but the Americans and French drew near, planted their cannon, and on the 9th of October began to pour in their shot upon him. A tremendous cannonade was now kept up night and day. The walls of the British fort were battered down, their cannon were silenced, and their men slaughtered by hundreds. Cornwallis attempted to escape, but did not succeed. At length, finding all resistance vain, he offered to capitulate, and on the 19th the whole army surrendered.

84. This splendid victory, in effect, closed the war. The British government saw that America could not be conquered. Accordingly they abandoned the attempt, acknowledged the independence of the United States, and in 1783 a treaty of peace between the two nations was signed. The British troops now took their departure, and our country thenceforward assumed her station among the independent nations of the earth.

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#### VIII.—ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES.

1. THE war of the revolution was now closed, and the British troops had retired from the country. It is scarcely possible for us to conceive of the sufferings of the people during this struggle. Thousands of them were killed; towns were burned; the lands lay uncultivated; and many of the churches had ceased to be places of worship, and had become barracks for soldiers. Hundreds of families had been broken up; thousands had been reduced from wealth to poverty; widows were mourning for their hus-

bands who were slain; children were thrown upon the world without protection; and society, having lost its character for pure morality, was stained with profligacy and vice. Besides all this, though our country had gained peace and independence, it was still without a regular government.

2. No nation can exist without a government. No family can live comfortably together without some one to govern them; no school could be kept together for a day without some one to govern it. In families and schools certain rules are established for their government; and when these are complied with every thing goes on pleasantly. So it is with states and nations. If there were no laws, or nobody to put them in force, the strong would rob the weak of their possessions, the cunning would deceive the simple, and thus a large part of the community would become the victims of injustice, cruelty, and crime. Happily, we had wise and good men at this time, as well as brave ones during the war. These men, seeing the necessities of the country, called a convention, consisting of delegates from the thirteen colonies. The delegates, assembled at Philadelphia, in May, 1787, and drew up a plan of government which is called the Constitution of the United States. This was submitted to Congress in September of the same year, and being ratified by the people in the several states, went into operation in 1789; and since that time it has continued to be the foundation of our national government.

3. The Constitution of the United States, as will be seen, provides that the government shall consist of three branches, namely, the legislative, or law-making power, the executive, and the judiciary.

4. The legislative branch is vested in a Congress, consisting of a Senate and House of Representatives. These two houses meet in the Capitol at Washington, to make laws for the United States. The Senate consists of two

members from each of the states, chosen by the several state legislatures. They are chosen for six years. The members of the House of Representatives are chosen in districts by the people of the several states. At the present time (1855) about ninety thousand inhabitants elect one representative. They are chosen for two years.

5. At the head of the executive department is the president of the United States, whose duty it is to see that the business of government is executed throughout the whole country according to the laws made by Congress. He is assisted in the discharge of his duty by five secretaries. One of these is called the secretary of state, another the secretary of the treasury, another the secretary of war, another the secretary of the navy, and a fifth, called the secretary of the interior. These secretaries, with the post-master general and the attorney general, form the "president's cabinet."

6. The judiciary consists of several judges, whose duty it is to explain and apply the laws of Congress.

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#### THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA;

Framed by a convention of delegates, of which Washington was the President, which met at Philadelphia, from the States of New Hampshire, Massachusetts,<sup>1</sup> Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia; and adopted 17th September, 1787.

#### PREAMBLE.

WE, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defence, promote the

<sup>1</sup> NOTE. — Rhode Island was not represented in the convention.

general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

ARTICLE I.

SECT. I.—1. All legislative powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives.

SECT. II.—1. The House of Representatives shall be composed of members chosen every second year, by the people of the several states; and the electors in each state shall have the qualifications requisite for electors of the most numerous branch of the state legislature.

2. No person shall be a representative who shall not have attained to the age of twenty-five years, and been seven years a citizen of the United States, and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state in which he shall be chosen.

3. Representatives and direct taxes shall be apportioned among the several states which may be included within this Union, according to their respective numbers, which shall be determined by adding to the whole number of free persons, including those bound to service for a term of years, and excluding Indians not taxed, three fifths of all other persons. The actual enumeration shall be made within three years after the first meeting of the Congress of the United States, and within every subsequent term of ten years, in such manner as they shall by law direct. The number of representatives shall not exceed one for every thirty thousand, but each state shall have at least one representative; and until such enumeration shall be made, the state of New Hampshire shall be entitled to choose three; Massachusetts, eight; Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, one; Connecticut, five; New

York, six ; New Jersey, four ; Pennsylvania, eight ; Delaware, one ; Maryland, six ; Virginia, ten ; North Carolina, five ; South Carolina, five ; and Georgia, three.

4. When vacancies happen in the representation from any state, the executive authority thereof shall issue writs of election to fill up such vacancies.

5. The House of Representatives shall choose their speaker and other officers, and shall have the sole power of impeachment.

SECT. III. — 1. The Senate of the United States shall be composed of two senators from each state, chosen by the legislature thereof, for six years ; and each senator shall have one vote.

2. Immediately after they shall be assembled in consequence of the first election, they shall be divided, as equally as may be, into three classes. The seats of the senators of the first class shall be vacated at the expiration of the second year ; of the second class, at the expiration of the fourth year ; and of the third class, at the expiration of the sixth year, so that one third may be chosen every second year ; and if vacancies happen, by resignation or otherwise, during the recess of the legislature of any state, the executive thereof may make temporary appointments until the next meeting of the legislature, which shall then fill such vacancies.

3. No person shall be a senator who shall not have attained to the age of thirty years, and been nine years a citizen of the United States ; and who shall not, when elected, be an inhabitant of that state for which he shall be chosen.

4. The vice president of the United States shall be president of the Senate ; but shall have no vote, unless they be equally divided.

5. The Senate shall choose their other officers, and also

a president pro tempore, in the absence of the vice president, or when he shall exercise the office of president of the United States.

6. The Senate shall have the sole power to try all impeachments. When sitting for that purpose, they shall be on oath or affirmation. When the president of the United States is tried, the chief justice shall preside; and no person shall be convicted without the concurrence of two thirds of the members present.

7. Judgment, in case of impeachment, shall not extend further than to removal from office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any office of honor, trust, or profit under the United States; but the party convicted shall, nevertheless, be liable and subject to indictment, trial, judgment, and punishment, according to law.

SECT. IV. — 1. The times, places, and manner of holding elections for senators and representatives shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof; but the Congress may at any time, by law, make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing senators.

2. The Congress shall assemble at least once in every year; and such meeting shall be on the first Monday in December, unless they shall by law appoint a different day.

SECT. V. — 1. Each house shall be the judge of the elections, returns, and qualifications of its own members; and a majority of each shall constitute a quorum to do business; but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day, and may be authorized to compel the attendance of absent members, in such manner and under such penalties as each house may provide.

2. Each house may determine the rules of its proceedings, punish its members for disorderly behavior, and, with the concurrence of two thirds, expel a member.

3. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings,

and from time to time publish the same, excepting such parts as may in their judgment require secrecy; and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, on any question, shall, at the desire of one fifth of those present, be entered on the journal.

4. Neither house, during the session of Congress, shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

SECT. VI.—1. The senators and representatives shall receive a compensation for their services, to be ascertained by law, and paid out of the treasury of the United States. They shall in all cases, except treason, felony, and breach of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the session of their respective houses, and in going to or returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either house they shall not be questioned in any other place.

2. No senator or representative shall, during the time for which he was elected, be appointed to any civil office, under the authority of the United States, which shall have been created, or the emoluments whereof shall have been increased, during such time; and no person holding any office under the United States shall be a member of either house during his continuance in office.

SECT. VII.—1. All bills for raising revenue shall originate in the House of Representatives; but the Senate may propose or concur with amendments, as on other bills.

2. Every bill which shall have passed the House of Representatives and the Senate shall, before it become a law, be presented to the president of the United States. If he approve, he shall sign it; but if not, he shall return it, with his objections, to that house in which it shall have

originated, who shall enter the objection at large on their journal, and proceed to reconsider it. If, after such reconsideration, two thirds of that house shall agree to pass the bill, it shall be sent, together with the objections, to the other house, by which it shall likewise be reconsidered, and if approved by two thirds of that house, it shall become a law. But, in all such cases, the votes of both houses shall be determined by yeas and nays, and the names of the persons voting for and against the bill shall be entered on the journal of each house respectively. If any bill shall not be returned by the president within ten days (Sundays excepted) after it shall have been presented to him, the same shall be a law in like manner as if he had signed it, unless the Congress, by their adjournment, prevent its return, in which case it shall not be a law.

3. Every order, resolution, or vote, to which the concurrence of the Senate and House of Representatives may be necessary, (except on a question of adjournment,) shall be presented to the president of the United States; and, before the same shall take effect, shall be approved by him, or, being disapproved by him, shall be repassed by two thirds of the Senate and House of Representatives, according to the rules and limitations prescribed in the case of a bill.

SECT. VIII. — The Congress shall have power —

1. To lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises; to pay the debts and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States; but all duties, imposts, and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States:

2. To borrow money on the credit of the United States:

3. To regulate commerce with foreign nations, and among the several states, and with the Indian tribes:

4. To establish a uniform rule of naturalization, and

uniform laws on the subject of bankruptcies, throughout the United States :

5. To coin money, regulate the value thereof, and of foreign coin, and fix the standard of weights and measures :

6. To provide for the punishment of counterfeiting the securities and current coin of the United States :

7. To establish post offices and post roads :

8. To promote the progress of science and useful arts, by securing for limited times, to authors and inventors, the exclusive right to their respective writings and discoveries :

9. To constitute tribunals inferior to the Supreme Court : to define and punish piracies and felonies committed on the high seas, and offences against the law of nations :

10. To declare war, grant letters of marque and reprisal, and make rules concerning captures on land and water :

11. To raise and support armies ; but no appropriation of money to that use shall be for a longer term than two years :

12. To provide and maintain a navy :

13. To make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces :

14. To provide for calling forth the militia to execute the laws of the Union, suppress insurrections, and repel invasions :

15. To provide for organizing, arming, and disciplining the militia, and for governing such part of them as may be employed in the service of the United States, reserving to the states respectively the appointment of the officers, and the authority of training the militia according to the discipline prescribed by Congress :

16. To exercise exclusive legislation, in all cases whatsoever, over such district (not exceeding ten miles square)

as may, by cession of particular states, and the acceptance of Congress, become the seat of government of the United States; and to exercise like authority over all places purchased, by the consent of the legislature of the state in which the same shall be, for the erection of forts, magazines, arsenals, dock-yards, and other needful buildings:— and,

17. To make all laws which shall be necessary and proper for carrying into execution the foregoing powers, and all other powers vested by this constitution in the government of the United States, or in any department or officer thereof.

SECT. IX.—1. The migration or importation of such persons as any of the states now existing shall think proper to admit shall not be prohibited by the Congress prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight, but a tax or duty may be imposed on such importation, not exceeding ten dollars for each person.

2. The privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.

3. No bill of attainder, or ex post facto law, shall be passed.

4. No capitation or other direct tax shall be laid, unless in proportion to the census or enumeration herein before directed to be taken.

5. No tax or duty shall be laid on articles exported from any state. No preference shall be given, by any regulation of commerce or revenue, to the ports of one state over those of another; nor shall vessels bound to or from one state be obliged to enter, clear, or pay duties, in another.

6. No money shall be drawn from the treasury but in consequence of appropriations made by law; and a regular

statement and account of the receipts and expenditures of all public money shall be published, from time to time.

7. No title of nobility shall be granted by the United States, and no person holding any office of profit or trust under them shall, without the consent of the Congress, accept of any present, emolument, office, or title of any kind whatever, from any king, prince, or foreign state.

SECT. X. — 1. No state shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; grant letters of marque and reprisal; coin money; emit bills of credit; make any thing but gold and silver coin a tender in payment of debts; pass any bill of attainder, ex post facto law, or law impairing the obligation of contracts; or grant any title of nobility.

2. No state shall, without the consent of the Congress, lay any imposts or duties on imports or exports, except what may be absolutely necessary for executing its inspection laws; and the net produce of all duties and imposts, laid by any state on imports or exports, shall be for the use of the treasury of the United States, and all such laws shall be subject to the revision and control of the Congress. No state shall, without the consent of Congress, lay any duty of tonnage, keep troops or ships of war in time of peace, enter into any agreement or compact with another state, or with a foreign power, or engage in war, unless actually invaded, or in such imminent danger as will not admit of delay.

#### ARTICLE II.

SECT. I. — 1. The executive power shall be vested in a president of the United States of America. He shall hold his office during the term of four years, and, together with the vice president, chosen for the same term, be elected as follows:

2. Each state shall appoint, in such manner as the

legislature thereof may direct, a number of electors equal to the whole number of senators and representatives to which the state may be entitled in the Congress; but no senator, or representative, or person holding an office of trust or profit under the United States, shall be appointed an elector.

3. The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for two persons, of whom one, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves. And they shall make a list of all the persons voted for, and of the number of votes for each; which list they shall sign and certify, and transmit sealed to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the president of the Senate. The president of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted. The person having the greatest number of votes shall be the president, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if there be more than one who have such majority, and have an equal number of votes, then the House of Representatives shall immediately choose, by ballot, one of them for president; and if no person have a majority, then, from the five highest on the list, the said house shall, in like manner, choose the president. But, in choosing the president, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum from each state shall consist of a member or members from two thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. In every case, after the choice of the president, the person having the greatest number of votes of the electors shall be the vice president. But, if there should remain two or more who have equal votes, the Senate shall choose from them, by ballot, the vice president.

4. The Congress may determine the time of choosing the electors, and the day on which they shall give their votes; which day shall be the same throughout the United States.

5. No person, except a natural-born citizen, or a citizen of the United States at the time of the adoption of this constitution, shall be eligible to the office of president; neither shall any person be eligible to that office who shall not have attained to the age of thirty-five years, and been fourteen years a resident within the United States.

6. In case of the removal of the president from office, or of his death, resignation, or inability to discharge the powers and duties of the said office, the same shall devolve on the vice president; and the Congress may, by law, provide for the case of removal, death, resignation, or inability, both of the president and vice president, declaring what officer shall then act as president; and such officer shall act accordingly, until the disability be removed, or a president shall be elected.

7. The president shall, at stated times, receive for his services a compensation, which shall neither be increased nor diminished during the period for which he shall have been elected; and he shall not receive within that period any other emolument from the United States, or any of them.

8. Before he enter on the execution of his office, he shall take the following oath or affirmation:—

9. “I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the United States, and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, and defend the constitution of the United States.”

SECT. II.—1. The president shall be commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, and of the militia of the several states, when called into the actual

service of the United States; he may require the opinion, in writing, of the principal officer, in each of the executive departments, upon any subject relating to the duties of their respective offices; and he shall have power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences against the United States, except in cases of impeachment.

2. He shall have power, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, to make treaties, provided two thirds of the senators present concur; and he shall nominate, and by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, shall appoint, ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls, judges of the supreme court, and all other officers of the United States, whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for, and which shall be established by law. But the Congress may, by law, vest the appointment of such inferior officers as they think proper in the president alone, in the courts of law, or in the heads of departments.

3. The president shall have power to fill up all vacancies that may happen during the recess of the Senate, by granting commissions which shall expire at the end of their next session.

SECT. III. — 1. He shall, from time to time, give to the Congress information of the state of the Union, and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient; he may, on extraordinary occasions, convene both houses, or either of them; and in case of disagreement between them with respect to the time of adjournment, he may adjourn them to such time as he shall think proper; he shall receive ambassadors and other public ministers; he shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed; and shall commission all the officers of the United States.

SECT. IV. — 1. The president, vice president, and all civil officers of the United States, shall be removed from

office on impeachment for, and conviction of, treason, bribery, or other high crimes and misdemeanors.

## ARTICLE III.

SECT. I.—1. The judicial power of the United States shall be vested in one supreme court, and in such inferior courts as the Congress may, from time to time, ordain and establish. The judges, both of the supreme and inferior courts, shall hold their offices during good behavior; and shall, at stated times, receive for their services a compensation which shall not be diminished during their continuance in office.

SECT. II.—1. The judicial power shall extend to all cases in law and equity arising under this constitution, the laws of the United States, and treaties made, or which shall be made, under their authority; to all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls; to all cases of admiralty and maritime jurisdiction; to controversies to which the United States shall be a party; to controversies between two or more states; between a state and citizens of another state; between citizens of different states; between citizens of the same state claiming lands under grants of different states; and between a state, or the citizens thereof, and foreign states, citizens, or subjects.

2. In all cases affecting ambassadors, other public ministers, and consuls, and those in which a state shall be a party, the supreme court shall have original jurisdiction. In all the other cases before mentioned, the supreme court shall have appellate jurisdiction, both as to law and fact, with such exceptions, and under such regulations, as the Congress shall make.

3. The trial of all crimes, except in cases of impeachment, shall be by jury, and such trial shall be held in the state where the said crimes shall have been committed;

but when not committed within any state, the trial shall be at such place or places as the Congress may by law have directed.

SECT. III.—1. Treason against the United States shall consist in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort. No person shall be convicted of treason, unless on the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or on confession in open court.

2. The Congress shall have power to declare the punishment of treason; but no attainder of treason shall work corruption of blood, or forfeiture, except during the life of the person attainted.

#### ARTICLE IV.

SECT. I.—1. Full faith and credit shall be given in each state to the public acts, records, and judicial proceedings, of every other state. And the Congress may, by general laws, prescribe the manner in which such acts, records, and proceedings, shall be proved, and the effect thereof.

SECT. II.—1. The citizens of each state shall be entitled to all privileges and immunities of citizens in the several states.

2. A person charged in any state with treason, felony or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another state, shall, on demand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime.

3. No person held to service or labor in one state, under the laws thereof, escaping into another, shall, in consequence of any law or regulation therein, be discharged from such service or labor; but shall be delivered up on claim of the party to whom such service or labor may be due.

SECT. III.—1. New states may be admitted by the Congress into this Union ; but no new states shall be formed or erected within the jurisdiction of any other state, nor any state be formed by the junction of two or more states, or parts of states, without the consent of the legislatures of the states concerned, as well as of the Congress.

2. The Congress shall have power to dispose of, and make all needful rules and regulations respecting, the territory or other property belonging to the United States ; and nothing in this constitution shall be so construed as to prejudice any claims of the United States, or any particular state.

SECT. IV.—1. The United States shall guarantee to every state in this Union a republican form of government, and shall protect each of them against invasion ; and, on application of the legislature, or of the executive (when the legislature cannot be convened), against domestic violence.

#### ARTICLE V.

1. The Congress, whenever two thirds of both houses shall deem it necessary, shall propose amendments to this constitution ; or, on the application of the legislatures of two thirds of the several states, shall call a convention for proposing amendments, which, in either case, shall be valid to all intents and purposes, as part of this constitution, when ratified by the legislatures of three fourths of the several states, or by conventions in three fourths thereof, as the one or the other mode of ratification may be proposed by the Congress ; provided, that no amendment which may be made prior to the year one thousand eight hundred and eight shall in any manner affect the first and fourth clauses in the ninth section of the first article ; and that no state, without its consent, shall be deprived of its equal suffrage in the Senate.

## ARTICLE VI.

1. All debts contracted and engagements entered into, before the adoption of this constitution, shall be as valid against the United States under this constitution as under the confederation.

2. This constitution, and the laws of the United States which shall be made in pursuance thereof, and all treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land; and the judges in every state shall be bound thereby, any thing in the constitution or laws of any state to the contrary notwithstanding.

3. The senators and representatives before mentioned, and the members of the several state legislatures, and all executive and judicial officers, both of the United States and of the several states, shall be bound by oath or affirmation to support this constitution; but no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States.

## ARTICLE VII.

1. The ratification of the conventions of nine states shall be sufficient for the establishment of this constitution between the states so ratifying the same.

Done in convention, by the unanimous consent of the states present, the seventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven, and of the independence of the United States of America the twelfth. In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names.

GEORGE WASHINGTON, *President,*  
*and Deputy from Virginia.*

The constitution was ratified by the prescribed number

of states in 1788, and went into operation in 1789. Vermont, the first of the new states which joined the Union, gave her assent early in 1791. The number of delegates chosen to the convention was sixty-five; ten did not attend; sixteen declined signing the constitution, or left the convention before it was ready to be signed. Thirty-nine signed, as follows:—

NEW HAMPSHIRE.	PENNSYLVANIA.	Daniel Carroll.
John Langdon,	Benjamin Franklin,	VIRGINIA.
Nicholas Gilman.	Thomas Mifflin,	John Blair,
	Robert Morris,	James Madison, Jr.
MASSACHUSETTS.	George Clymer,	
Nathaniel Gorman,	Thomas Fitzsimons,	NORTH CAROLINA.
Rufus King.	Jared Ingersoll,	William Blount,
	James Wilson,	Rich'd Dobbs Spaight,
CONNECTICUT.	Gouverneur Morris.	Hugh Williamson.
Wm. Samuel Johnson,	DELAWARE.	
Roger Sherman.	George Read,	SOUTH CAROLINA.
	Gunning Bedford, Jr.,	John Rutledge,
NEW YORK.	John Dickinson,	Charles Cotesworth
Alexander Hamilton.	Richard Bassett,	Pinckney,
	Jacob Broom.	Charles Pinckney,
NEW JERSEY.		Pierce Butler.
William Livingston,	MARYLAND.	
David Bearley,	James M'Henry,	GEORGIA.
William Paterson,	Daniel of St. Thomas	William Few,
Jonathan Dayton.	Jenifer,	Abraham Baldwin.
<i>Attest,</i>	WILLIAM JACKSON, <i>Secretary.</i>	

#### AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

At the first session of the first Congress, twelve amendments to the constitution were recommended to the states, ten of which were adopted; the others have since been adopted.

ART. 1. Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise there-

of; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

ART. 2. A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed.

ART. 3. No soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner; nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

ART. 4. The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated; and no warrants shall issue but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

ART. 5. No person shall be held to answer for a capital or otherwise infamous crime, unless on a presentment or indictment of a grand jury, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war or public danger; nor shall any person be subject for the same offence to be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall be compelled, in any criminal case, to be a witness against himself; nor be deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor shall private property be taken for public use, without just compensation.

ART. 6. In all criminal prosecutions the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury of the state and district wherein the crime shall have been committed, which district shall have been previously ascertained by law, and to be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor; and to have the assistance of counsel for his defence.

ART. 7. In suits at common law, where the value in controversy shall exceed twenty dollars, the right of trial by jury shall be preserved; and no fact tried by a jury shall be otherwise reëxamined, in any court of the United States, than according to the rules of the common law.

ART. 8. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.

ART. 9. The enumeration in the constitution of certain rights shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

ART. 10. The powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

ART. 11. The judicial power of the United States shall not be construed to extend to any suit in law or equity, commenced or prosecuted against one of the United States, by citizens of another state, or by citizens or subjects of any foreign state.

ART. 12. § 1. The electors shall meet in their respective states, and vote by ballot for president and vice president, one of whom, at least, shall not be an inhabitant of the same state with themselves; they shall name in their ballots the person voted for as president, and in distinct ballots the person voted for as vice president; and they shall make distinct lists of all persons voted for as president, and of all persons voted for as vice president, and of the number of votes for each, which lists they shall sign and certify, and transmit, sealed, to the seat of the government of the United States, directed to the president of the Senate; the president of the Senate shall, in the presence of the Senate and House of Representatives, open all the certificates, and the votes shall then be counted; the person having the greatest number of votes for president shall be the president, if

such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have such majority, then from the persons having the highest numbers, not exceeding three, on the list of those voted for as president, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately, by ballot, the president. But in choosing the president, the votes shall be taken by states, the representation from each state having one vote; a quorum for this purpose shall consist of a member or members from two thirds of the states, and a majority of all the states shall be necessary to a choice. And if the House of Representatives shall not choose a president, whenever the right of choice shall devolve upon them, before the fourth day of March next following, then the vice president shall act as president, as in the case of the death or other constitutional disability of the president.

§ 2. The person having the greatest number of votes as vice president shall be the vice president, if such number be a majority of the whole number of electors appointed; and if no person have a majority, then from the two highest numbers on the list the Senate shall choose the vice president; a quorum for the purpose shall consist of two thirds of the whole number of senators, and a majority of the whole number shall be necessary to a choice.

§ 3. But no person constitutionally ineligible to the office of president shall be eligible to that of vice president of the United States.

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7. Upon the adoption of the Constitution of the United States, the attention of the nation was at once directed to George Washington as the candidate for the presidency, and he was accordingly chosen President of the United States. John Adams was elected vice president.

## IX. — WASHINGTON'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. THE inauguration of General Washington took place at New York on the 30th of April, 1789, and Congress assembled to make laws for the country. All things now began to go on well. The people returned to their habits of industry, and the meadows and wheat fields began to bloom once more. Poverty and mourning ceased, the ministers of the gospel returned to their churches, and peace and plenty were spread over the land.

2. The first duty of Congress was, to establish a system of revenue, for the support of government; and for this purpose duties were laid on imported merchandise, and on the tonnage of vessels. They then proceeded to create the several departments of the executive, and to establish a judiciary. Congress assumed the foreign and domestic debts which had been contracted, and a national bank was established. The Constitution was adopted by North Carolina in November, and by Rhode Island in the following May, thus completing the number of the thirteen original states. The other events were, the admission of Vermont to the Union, an Indian war on the north-west frontiers, and the admission of Kentucky.

3. Vermont was admitted to the Union March 4, 1791. It was settled at a much later date than the other New England states. There was a fort built near Brattleboro' in 1724, called Fort Dummer, the remains of which are still to be seen. It was built to protect the settlers from the Indians. For many years New York and New Hampshire laid claim to the territory, and it was decided in England in 1764 that it belonged to New York, and consequently the government of that colony began to sell the land to any persons who would buy it. The settlers thought this very unjust, and determined to resist. New

York then sent troops into Vermont, and there was some fighting; but in 1789 the difficulties were amicably settled by purchase. A convention was called, and a resolution adopted to join the Federal Union.

4. As early as 1790 an Indian war broke out on the north-western frontier, as it was then termed. General Harmar was sent to reduce the hostile tribes to submission, but was defeated in an engagement near Chillicothe with considerable loss. General St. Clair succeeded him, and likewise sustained a defeat on the 4th of November, 1791, with the loss of six hundred men. General Wayne was then appointed to the command, and on the 20th of August, 1794, at the head of an army of three thousand men, succeeded in gaining a complete victory, which was soon followed by a treaty of peace.

5. Kentucky was admitted to the Union on the 1st of June, 1792. Long after Virginia was settled, it remained in the possession of the Indians; but as early as 1769, Colonel Daniel Boone and some others went to explore the country. This party was attacked and plundered by the Indians, and all of them, except Boone, were killed. He remained in the wilderness for near two years, and then returned to his family, who lived on the Yadkin River, in North Carolina. Boone was an eccentric man, and preferred the wild woods to meadows and wheat fields. Accordingly he determined to return to Kentucky, and in 1775 went there, with fifty families besides his own, and forty men. These penetrated the forests, and made the first settlement in Kentucky at Boonesboro', near Lexington. Other settlers continued to arrive, and the population thus gradually increased. During the revolutionary war the inhabitants were much distressed by the Indians, who took part with the British, and committed every species of cruelty upon the defenceless settlers. They were severely

punished, however, in 1779, by General Clarke, who marched against them with a body of soldiers, and laid their country waste. From this time they became less hostile, and the white people lived in greater security.

6. General Washington was reelected president in 1792, and John Adams was again chosen vice president. His second term was distinguished by difficulties both with France and England; but fortunately the horrors of war were avoided. Tennessee, the first settlement of which was made at Nashville, as early as 1765, was admitted to the Union on the 1st of June, 1796. General Washington's administration terminated on the 3d of March, 1797, on which occasion he delivered his "Farewell Address" to the people of the United States, which, for purity of language, beauty of conception, and soundness of political sentiments, has never been equalled. John Adams, of Massachusetts, was elected his successor, and Thomas Jefferson vice president.

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## X.—JOHN ADAMS'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. THE inauguration of Mr. Adams took place at Philadelphia, on the 4th of March, 1797. The country at this time was in a very prosperous state; but serious difficulties soon manifested themselves with France, which at one time threatened immediate war. An army was raised, and General Washington was appointed to the command of it; but a treaty of peace having been concluded on the 30th of September, 1800, the army was soon disbanded.

2. On the 14th of December, 1799, General Washington died at Mount Vernon, at the age of nearly sixty-eight years. The whole nation were in mourning at the event.

Funeral orations were delivered, and processions formed in all the principal towns and cities, and every possible mark of respect was paid to the memory of the man who was first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen.

3. In 1800 the seat of government was transferred from Philadelphia to Washington, in the District of Columbia.

4. Mr. Adams was not elected for a second term. There was much opposition to his administration; but the acts which rendered it most unpopular with the people were the passage of the "alien" and "sedition" laws.<sup>1</sup> There was no choice of a president by the people, and Thomas Jefferson was elected by Congress, on the thirty-sixth balloting. Aaron Burr was elected vice president.



## XI. — JEFFERSON'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. THE inauguration of Mr. Jefferson took place at Washington, on the 4th of March, 1801. The leading events which distinguished his first term were the admission of Ohio to the Union, the purchase of Louisiana, and the death of General Hamilton.

2. Ohio was admitted to the Union in 1802. As late as the year 1787, almost all this country was in the possession of the Indians. A few scattered inhabitants had established themselves within the territory, and in 1788

<sup>1</sup> By the alien law, the president was authorized to order any foreigner, whom he should judge dangerous to the peace and safety of the United States, to leave the country; and the sedition law was designed to prevent any abuse of speech against the president, members of Congress, &c.

General Rufus Putnam, with a party from New England, planted a little colony at the mouth of the Muskingum, where Marietta now stands ; thus forming the first regular settlement in Ohio.

3. In 1803 the United States government purchased of France all that vast tract of country situated between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean, called Louisiana; for which the sum of fifteen millions of dollars was paid.

4. In July, 1804, a duel took place between Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr, in which the former was killed. This melancholy event caused great sensation throughout the country, as he was justly and universally respected for his talents and integrity.

5. Mr. Jefferson was reëlected to the presidency in 1804, and Mr. George Clinton, of New York, was chosen vice president. The principal events which distinguished his second term were the war and peace with Tripoli, the conspiracy and trial of Aaron Burr, and difficulties arising from the war between France and England.

6. In June, 1805, a war, which had been going on for several years between the United States and Tripoli, one of the piratical Barbary States in the north of Africa, was brought to a close by a treaty ; the pacha offering terms of peace which were accepted by the American consul. It was agreed that an exchange of prisoners should be made ; and as the pacha had a balance of more than two hundred in his favor he was to receive sixty thousand dollars from our government.

7. In 1806, Aaron Burr, the same who had been vice president during Mr. Jefferson's first term, was detected in a conspiracy, the design of which was to revolutionize the territory west of the Alleghanies, to seize the city of New Orleans for a capital, form an independent empire, and make himself the ruler ; and in case he should fail in

this project, he intended to attack Mexico and establish an empire there. He was arrested and brought to trial at Richmond, Virginia, on a charge of treason; but for the want of sufficient evidence of his guilt he was acquitted.

8. During the war between England and France, which had been carried on for many years, the people of the United States were engaged in carrying the merchandise of both countries. On the 16th of May, 1806, the British government, for the purpose of injuring the commerce of France, issued an order in council declaring the ports and rivers from the Elbe to Brest to be in a state of blockade. By this order many American vessels, trading to that coast, were seized and condemned. Bonaparte, the Emperor of France, soon retaliated, by issuing a decree at Berlin, declaring the British Islands in a state of blockade, and prohibiting all commerce with them. In January, 1807, the British government prohibited all coasting trade with France. These measures were highly injurious to the commerce of the United States.

9. In addition to this, England claimed the right to search American vessels and take from them those sailors who were born in England. The government of the United States remonstrated against this pretended right, but in vain. The American frigate Chesapeake, refusing to give up four men claimed by the English as deserters, was fired upon by the British frigate Leopard. Being unsuspecting of danger, and unprepared for defence, the Chesapeake struck her colors, after having three of her men killed and eighteen wounded. The men claimed were then given up; but, upon investigation, it was found that three of them were American citizens, who had been impressed by the British, and had afterwards escaped.

10. This outrage called forth a proclamation from President Jefferson, forbidding all British vessels to enter the

harbors of the United States until satisfaction for the past, and security for the future, should be made by England.

11. In November, 1807, the British government, as a retaliation for Bonaparte's "Berlin decree," issued the famous "orders in council," by which all neutral nations were prohibited from trading with France or her allies, excepting upon payment of a tribute to England. This was immediately met by Bonaparte's "Milan decree," which confiscated all vessels which had submitted to search by an English ship, or had paid the tribute.

12. To retaliate upon France and England, Congress, in December, decreed an embargo, by which all American vessels and sailors were called home and detained. But, as it failed in obtaining from France and England an acknowledgment of American rights, and proving ruinous to the commerce of this country, the embargo act was repealed; but a *non-intercourse* act was substituted, which was to continue until either France or England should revoke its decrees.

13. Such was the condition of public affairs when Mr. Jefferson retired from office, having served a term of eight years. Declining a reëlection, Mr. James Madison, of Virginia, was chosen president, and Mr. George Clinton was reëlected vice president.

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## XII. — MADISON'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. MR. MADISON was inaugurated on the 4th of March, 1809; and soon after he was informed by Mr. Erskine, the British minister at Washington, that on the 10th of June, the British orders in council, so far as they affected the United States, would cease. The president, therefore,

issued a proclamation renewing intercourse with England on that day. But the British government refused to sanction this act of Mr. Erskine, and the president again proclaimed non-intercourse with England.

2. The events and measures that mark Mr. Madison's administration are numerous, interesting, and important; the chief of which is the declaration of war against England. The causes which led to this war grew out of the hostilities between France and England.

3. Although France had renewed commercial intercourse with the United States, England continued her "orders in council." Her ships of war were stationed along our coast to intercept our merchant vessels.

4. On the evening of May 16, 1811, an encounter took place off the capes of Virginia, which considerably increased the excitement. The American frigate *President*, commanded by Commodore Rodgers, hailed the British sloop of war *Little Belt*; but instead of receiving a satisfactory answer, a shot was returned. An engagement ensued, and the *Little Belt* was soon disabled, having eleven of her men killed and twenty-one wounded. On board the *President*, only one was wounded. The conduct of Commodore Rodgers was approved by a court of inquiry.

5. In 1811 the Indian tribes on the Wabash becoming hostile, General Harrison, governor of Indiana Territory, collected a large force and marched against them. Their principal chiefs, Tecumseh and the Prophet, were not present; but on the approach of General Harrison other chiefs came out to meet him. They proposed a conference, and requested him to encamp for the night. The general did so; but, suspecting treachery, he formed his men in order of battle, and thus they reposed on their arms.

6. Early on the morning of November 7, the Indians

suddenly rushed upon the camp, and a bloody contest ensued. The savages were repulsed, and their plans were defeated. This battle took place near the Tippecanoe River, and was hence called the battle of Tippecanoe.

7. In April, 1812, that portion of Louisiana Territory now known as the State of Louisiana was admitted into the Union as an independent state.

8. On the 1st of June, 1812, President Madison sent a message to Congress, recommending a declaration of war against England. The principal reasons assigned were — the impressment of American seamen; harassing our vessels on our own coast; the blockade of her enemy's ports, supported by no adequate force, in consequence of which the American commerce had been plundered in every sea, and the products of the country cut off from their legitimate markets; and the British orders in council.

9. In accordance with the recommendation, a bill was passed by both houses of Congress, and on the 19th of June, the president issued a proclamation of war. By an act of Congress the president was authorized to enlist 25,000 men in the regular army, to accept 50,000 volunteers, and to call out 100,000 militia for the defence of the sea coast and frontiers. Henry Dearborn, of Massachusetts, was appointed major general and commander-in-chief, with Wilkinson, Bloomfield, Hampton, and Hull, as brigadier generals.

10. General Hull was governor of Michigan Territory at the time of the declaration of war. He had a force of 2000 men at his command, with which he was authorized to invade Canada. He crossed the Detroit River, and encamped at Sandwich, intending to march upon the British post at Malden. But while he was wasting nearly a month in camp, Malden was reënforced, and Mackinaw, two hundred and seventy miles distant, was surprised and captured

by a body of British and Indians. Terrified at this intelligence, and hearing that the victors were rapidly coming down upon him, he suddenly recrossed the river, and hastened to the fort at Detroit.

11. The British general, Brock, followed in pursuit ; and while the Americans were drawn up in order of battle outside of the fort, anxiously waiting for orders to fire upon the British, General Hull suddenly ordered them into the fort, and caused a white flag to be hung out in token of submission. The indignation of the army broke forth, and all subordination ceased. They rushed in without order, stacked their arms, some dashing them with violence upon the ground. Many of the soldiers wept. Not only the army at Detroit, but the whole territory, with all its forts and garrisons, were surrendered to the British.

12. Some time afterwards Hull was exchanged for thirty British prisoners. He was arrested, and tried by a court martial, on a charge of treason, cowardice, and un-officer-like conduct. The court declined giving an opinion on the first charge ; but on the others he was sentenced to death. He was pardoned by the president, but his name was struck from the rolls of the army.

13. On the 19th of August a naval action took place, in which Captain Isaac Hull, of the United States frigate *Constitution*, captured the British frigate *Guerriere*, commanded by Captain Dacres. The *Guerriere* was so disabled as to require being burned, and one third of her crew was either killed or wounded.

14. On the 13th of October, 1812, a part of the army under General Van Rensselaer, crossed the Niagara River, and attacked the British on Queenstown heights. The first assault was successful ; but just at that moment, the British general, Brock, arrived with a reënforcement. They were gallantly driven back, and General Brock was

killed. But owing to the cowardice of that part of Van Rensselaer's army which remained on the American side of the river, and who absolutely refused to cross over to aid their brethren, the British were in the end victorious.

15. In October another naval victory was achieved by the Americans. The sloop of war *Wasp*, of eighteen guns, captured the British brig *Frolic*, of twenty-two guns, off the coast of North Carolina. A few days later, Captain Decatur, of the frigate *United States*, of forty-four guns, captured the British frigate *Macedonian*, of forty-nine guns. The latter vessel was very much injured, while the *United States* suffered so little that it was unnecessary for her to go into port for repairs.

16. In December a second victory was gained by the *Constitution*—then commanded by Captain Bainbridge—over the British frigate *Java*. This was off San Salvador, on the Brazil coast.

17. The results of the campaign of 1812 may be summed up in a few words. The land operations were characterized by a series of disgraceful failures; those on the ocean by a series of naval triumphs.

18. At the opening of the campaign of 1813, the American forces were arranged in three divisions. The army of the west, under General Harrison, was stationed near the head of Lake Erie; the army of the centre, under General Dearborn, between Lakes Erie and Ontario; and the army of the north, under General Hampton, on the shores of Lake Champlain. The British forces in Canada were under Sir George Prevost, as chief in command, who was seconded by General Sheaffe.

19. Mr. Madison began his second term as president of the United States, March 4, 1813. George Clinton was elected vice president, but dying soon after, Elbridge Gerry was appointed to succeed him.

20. The people of the western country were anxious to recover the territory lost by General Hull's surrender. With this design General Harrison determined to undertake a winter campaign. After a series of successes and reverses, and the splendid naval achievement by Commodore Perry on Lake Erie, which gave to the Americans the mastery of that lake, General Harrison, on the 27th and 29th of September, got possession of Malden and Detroit.

21. On the 2d of October, General Harrison and Governor Shelby, with thirty-five hundred picked men, left Detroit in pursuit of the British General Proctor, whom they found at the Moravian village on the Thames. The armies immediately engaged, with the most determined courage. The celebrated Indian warrior Tecumseh was slain, and upon his fall the Indians immediately fled, which led to the defeat of the whole British force. Proctor escaped, with about two hundred dragoons.

22. The recovery of Detroit from the British put an end to the Indian war in that quarter. Leaving General Cass, with one thousand men, at Detroit, General Harrison proceeded to join the army of the centre. The invasion of Canada was now the leading object. The plan of attack was marked out, and various movements were made; but unexpected difficulties occurring, the American force retired into winter quarters at French Mills, in Franklin county, New York.

23. Many and severe conflicts took place between the war vessels of the United States and England during the year 1813. In February, the *Hornet*, commanded by Captain Lawrence, captured the British sloop of war *Peacock*. This was the sixth naval victory in succession which the Americans had gained over the enemy; but this triumphal career was soon checked.

24. Captain Lawrence, for his gallant services in the affair of the Peacock, had been honored with the command of the frigate Chesapeake, which was lying in Boston harbor. On his arrival at Boston to take charge of her, he learned that the British frigate Shannon had recently appeared off the coast, challenging an attack. Captain Lawrence, with more zeal than prudence, accepted the challenge. The Shannon had a picked crew of officers and seamen, prepared for the occasion; while that of the Chesapeake consisted of newly enlisted men, strangers alike to Lawrence and to the ship. Lawrence hastily put to sea, on the 1st of June, in search of the Shannon. At half past five P. M. of the same day, the two ships engaged. In a few minutes every officer on board the Chesapeake capable of taking the command was either killed or wounded. The young and brave commander received a mortal wound; and as he was carried below, he issued his last heroic order, "Don't give up the ship," too late to be effectual for good in that instance, but an inspiring motto in the American navy to this day.

25. Perry's victory on Lake Erie, before alluded to, deserves a more special notice. During the summer, by the exertions of Commodore Perry, an American squadron had been fitted out on Lake Erie. It consisted of nine small vessels carrying fifty-four guns. A British squadron of six vessels, mounting sixty-three guns, had been built and equipped, under the superintendence of Commodore Barclay.

26. On the 10th of September the two squadrons met near the western extremity of the lake. Perry's flag-ship was the "Lawrence," and in forming the line of battle, he hoisted his flag, on which were inscribed the words of the dying Lawrence, "*Don't give up the ship!*" Loud huzzas from all the vessels proclaimed the animation which this

motto inspired. The firing commenced about noon. The fire of the enemy, at first, was principally directed against the *Lawrence*, which in a short time became disabled. Commodore Perry then left her, and embarking in an open boat, transferred his flag on board the *Niagara*. Once more he bore down upon the enemy with the remainder of his fleet, the action becoming general and severe. At four o'clock the victory was rendered decisive and complete. Commodore Perry, in giving intelligence of the victory to General Harrison, then at Fort Meigs, wrote the following laconic note: "We have met the enemy, and they are ours,—two ships, two brigs, one schooner, and one sloop."

27. In the early part of this year the British government declared the Chesapeake and Delaware Bays to be in a state of blockade. British squadrons were stationed off the coast, and large detachments were sent on shore to carry on a most disgraceful war of devastation. Much valuable shipping was destroyed, several villages in the Chesapeake were plundered and burned, and the inhabitants subjected to the grossest outrages from the brutal soldiers.

28. The Creek Indians, in the south, who had been instigated by the British to make war upon the people of the United States, were subdued by General Jackson, and a treaty of peace was concluded with them in August, 1814.

29. In the summer of 1814 there was some hard fighting, along the Niagara frontier, between the Americans and the British. In the engagements at Chippewa and Bridgewater, the American Generals Brown, Scott, and Ripley won high honors. The battle of Lundy's Lane was one of the most sanguinary conflicts on record. Generals Brown and Scott were among the wounded. The Americans were left in possession of the field.

30. In the month of August a squadron of fifty or sixty British vessels arrived in the Chesapeake Bay, with troops from Europe, for the purpose of attacking Washington, the capital of the United States. Five thousand troops, under the command of General Ross, were landed and marched towards that city.

31. The measures which had been taken for the defence of the city were inefficient. It was only a fortnight previous to the invasion that General Winder received his orders to call his forces together; and when the news arrived that the enemy had landed, he had not collected more than three thousand men. Some aid arrived, under General Stansbury, from Baltimore.

32. General Winder met the enemy at Bladensburg. The president and heads of departments were on the field; but as the issue of the contest was doubtful, and they had important documents to secure, all left it about the time the battle began, except Colonel Monroe. The contest terminated as might have been expected from the condition of the American troops. Many of the militia fled. General Ross entered Washington in the evening of the 24th of August, and with that barbarity which marked the Goths and Vandals of the dark ages, his troops burned not only the Capitol, which was in an unfinished state, but its extensive library, records, and other collections appertaining to peace and civilization. The public offices and the president's house were wantonly sacrificed, together with many private dwellings.

33. If the British had confined themselves to the capture and destruction of such public property as pertained to warlike purposes, the Americans could have borne their humiliation with better grace; but the manner in which the British used their advantage roused in the minds of the people a vindictive feeling against the conquerors,

and united the nation, not in a desire for peace, but in a determined spirit for war.

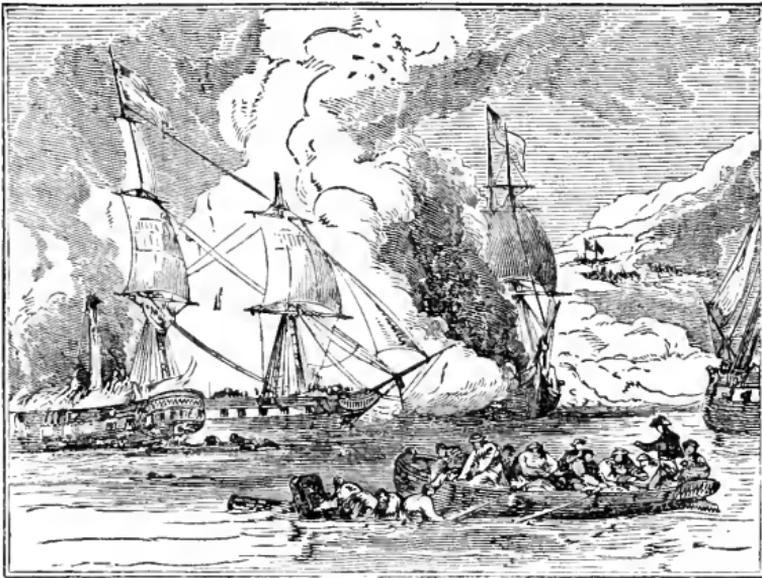
34. From Washington, General Ross led his troops to Baltimore, going thither by water. He landed five thousand men at North Point, and commenced his march towards Baltimore on the 12th of September. The Americans met him: a battle ensued, and General Ross was killed. While Colonel Brooke, on whom the command of the army now devolved, was making his arrangements for a renewal of the attack by night, he received a communication from the British Admiral Cochrane, the commander of the naval forces, informing him that Fort McHenry had resisted all his efforts at bombardment, and that the entrance to the harbor was impracticable. Colonel Brooke, therefore, drew off his troops in the night, and re-embarked at North Point. You can easily imagine the feelings of joyous exultation at Baltimore, when, on the morning of the 16th, they saw the "star-spangled banner" still waving over Fort McHenry, and felt that their city was no longer doomed to destruction.

"The star-spangled banner, O, long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!"

35. In the month of August, 1814, the governor of the British Province of New Brunswick invaded Maine; a proclamation was issued by the council of New Brunswick, declaring the country east of the Penobscot in possession of the King of Great Britain; and the British continued to hold this part of Maine until the close of the war.

36. In September, 1814, Sir George Prevost, at the head of fourteen thousand troops, advanced upon Plattsburg, on Lake Champlain, where General Macomb, with a force of less than two thousand men, was stationed. The American squadron, commanded by Commodore Macdon-

ough, was lying in the harbor of Plattsburg. On the 6th of September Prevost's forces arrived. General Macomb's situation was critical. During four days he kept the British at bay. On the morning of the 11th a general cannonading was begun on the American works, and soon after the British squadron was observed bearing down in order of battle. Commodore Macdonough cleared his decks for action, and gallantly received the enemy. After a contest of two hours, the whole British fleet on the lake



Battle of Lake Champlain.

was captured by the Americans. And as soon as Sir George Prevost saw that his fleet was lost, he called in his columns, and retreated in great haste towards Canada, leaving large quantities of ammunition and military stores behind him. The British loss, in killed, wounded, prisoners, and deserters, was estimated at twenty-five hundred men.

37. During the same war a still more famous engagement occurred at New Orleans. On the 8th of January,

1815, twelve thousand British troops came against that city. General Jackson was there with six thousand Americans, mostly militia, but the best marksmen in the land. He knew that the enemy were coming; so he prepared to receive them. He had a long breastwork made of cotton bales, heaped one upon another. Then he placed twelve cannon along the line, and the Americans got behind the breastwork. All things were now ready, and the British troops, led by General Pakenham, began to advance over the level ground towards the American breastwork.

38. For a long time the Americans were still, and let the British come close upon them. Then suddenly the men put their lighted matches to the cannon; the balls were hurled amid the British ranks, and the soldiers fell by hundreds. Then, too, the Americans pointed their rifles over the breastwork, and sent their bullets in the faces of the enemy. A vivid sheet of fire continued to blaze along the American line, and the ground, far and near, was shaken with the thunder of the battle.

39. The British were brave men, and they were led by a brave general; but they could not withstand the deadly fire of the Americans. They were driven back, leaving the ground strewed with hundreds of the dead and dying. Twice, indeed, they rallied, and a few of them, as if seeking death, rushed close up to the breastwork. One daring officer, at the head of his men, ascended to the top of it, and shouted to his followers to come on. But ere the words had parted from his lips, he fell into the ditch below, pierced through and through by a dozen bullets.

40. In one hour after the battle began, it was all over. The British were totally defeated, and marched sullenly away. General Pakenham was killed, seven hundred of his brave soldiers lay dead on the field, one thousand four

hundred were wounded, and five hundred were taken prisoners. Thus the British lost twenty-six hundred men, while the Americans had only seven killed and six wounded.

41. This was the last important event of the war on the land. On the 17th of February, while the Americans were yet rejoicing for the victory at New Orleans, a special messenger arrived from Europe, bringing the welcome tidings that a treaty of peace between the United States and Great Britain had been concluded in the previous December. This treaty was immediately ratified by the President and Senate. The war vessels of the two nations were many of them at sea when the treaty of peace was proclaimed, and some fighting occurred among them about the time, and soon after, but closing there, as on the land, with victory to the "star-spangled banner."

42. Soon after the treaty of peace with England, the United States declared war against Algiers. That nation had violated the treaty of 1795, and committed depredations upon American merchant vessels. In May, a squadron under Commodore Decatur sailed from New York, and proceeding up the Mediterranean, captured the frigate of the Algerine admiral on the 17th of June. Two days later he took another frigate; and then he sailed for Algiers. A treaty was dictated to the Dey of Algiers, which he signed. It obliged him to release all the American prisoners in his possession, and to relinquish all future claims to tribute from the United States.

43. Commodore Decatur then went to Tunis and Tripoli, where he demanded and obtained payment of large sums of money for violating their treaties with the United States. In this war our government set a worthy example to the European powers, in chastising and humbling a lawless band of pirates.

44. In December, 1816, Indiana was admitted into the Union. It was first discovered by the French, and a few scattered settlements were made by the people of that nation, but in 1763 it was ceded to Great Britain. At the close of the Revolutionary war it belonged to the United States. In 1800 it was organized under the name of Indiana Territory. It then included Illinois, but in 1809 it was divided, and Illinois became a separate territory.

45. In 1816 the bank of the United States was incorporated by Congress, with a capital of thirty-five millions of dollars, and a charter to continue for twenty years. In the presidential election held in the autumn of 1816, James Monroe, of Virginia, was chosen president, and Daniel D. Tompkins, of New York, vice president of the United States.

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### XIII.—MONROE'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. MR. MONROE was inaugurated on the 4th of March, 1817. The country was just beginning to recover from the effects of the late war. Every department of industry was active, particularly that of agriculture. Many, whose fortunes had been reduced by the war, sought to improve them by cultivating the soil. Thousands left the Atlantic States and moved westward, where lands were cheap and the soil productive; and so rapid was the increase of population in that section, that within ten years from the close of the war, six new states were added to the Union.

2. In 1817 Mississippi Territory was divided, and the western part admitted as the State of Mississippi. Ferdinand de Soto visited this territory in 1539. A Frenchman, named La Salle, came down the river in 1683, and

called the country Louisiana, in honor of Louis XIV. of France. The Seminole and Creek Indians having commenced depredations on the frontiers of Georgia and Alabama, in 1817, General Jackson with a thousand volunteers from Tennessee, added to the forces already raised, marched into their territory and subdued them.

3. Illinois, in 1818, adopted a state constitution and was admitted into the Union. This part of the country was originally discovered and settled by the French, who were early competitors of the English in making discoveries and settlements in North America. While the English were establishing their colonies on the eastern coast, the French were ascending the St. Lawrence River, and forming settlements in Canada and along the shores of the great lakes. Here they learned from the Indian tribes that visited them, that far beyond the western plains there flowed a mighty river to the south, larger than any of the American rivers yet discovered.

4. In February, 1819, the Floridas and adjacent islands were ceded to the United States by Spain. This country was discovered in 1512, by the Spaniards. It happened on "Palm Sunday," or the Feast of Flowers, called in the Spanish language *Pascua Florida*; hence its name. St. Augustine was founded by the Spaniards about the year 1564, and is the oldest town in North America.

5. In December, 1819, Alabama was admitted as an independent state of the Union. The territory of Alabama was a mere Indian hunting ground long after the settlement of other parts of our country. After the revolutionary war it was claimed by Georgia, and the United States bought the claim.

6. In March, 1820, the District of Maine, which had been connected with Massachusetts since 1652, was separated from that state, and admitted into the Union as an

independent state. As early as the year 1607, about one hundred English people came over and began a settlement at the mouth of the Kennebec River; but it was not of long duration. In 1623, on the Saco River, was begun the first permanent settlement; more white people went from Massachusetts, and settled in various parts of Maine.

7. Mr. Monroe was reelected to the presidency by a nearly unanimous vote, and entered upon his second term on the 4th of March, 1821. Mr. Tompkins was again elected vice president.

8. In August, 1821, Missouri became the twenty-fourth state of the Union. Though the French were the first settlers, and for a long time the principal inhabitants of Missouri, yet a small portion of her present population is of that descent. A fort was built by that people as early as 1719, near the site of the present capital, called Fort Orleans, and its lead mines worked to some extent the next year. St. Genevieve, the oldest town in the state, was founded in 1755; and St. Louis in 1764. At the treaty of 1763, it was assigned, with all the territory west of the Mississippi, to Spain. It was ceded to France in 1801. In 1803, at the purchase of Louisiana, it came into the possession of the United States, and formed part of the Territory of Louisiana, till the formation of the state of that name in 1812, when the remainder of the territory was named Missouri, from which (after a stormy debate in Congress as to the admission of slavery) was separated the present State of Missouri in 1821.

9. In 1822 Commodore Porter was sent to the West Indies with a small naval force to suppress the piratical establishments in that region. He captured and destroyed upwards of twenty pirate vessels on the coast of Cuba; and in the following year, with a stronger force, he completely broke them up.

10. In the summer of 1824, the venerable Marquis de Lafayette, of France, the friend and ally of the Americans in the revolutionary war, came over, by invitation of Congress, to revisit the land to whose freedom and happiness he had so largely contributed, by his fortune, influence, skill, and bravery. He remained here about a year, during which he visited every state in the Union, and was every where hailed as a father, and honored as the "nation's guest." When he was about to return to France, a new frigate was prepared for his accommodation, and named the "Brandywine," in commemoration of the battle in which he was wounded. On the 7th of September President Adams bade him an affectionate farewell in behalf of the nation. General Lafayette was attended to the vessel by the whole population of the district. In passing Mount Vernon, he landed to pay his final visit to the tomb of Washington; then, reëmbarking, a prosperous voyage soon landed him safely on his own native shores.

11. When Mr. Monroe's second term of office was about to expire, there was an unusual degree of excitement about a successor. There were four candidates, John Quincy Adams, William H. Crawford, Andrew Jackson, and Henry Clay, neither of whom received a majority of the electoral votes. The choice of a president therefore devolved upon the House of Representatives, which decided in favor of John Quincy Adams, of Massachusetts. John C. Calhoun, of South Carolina, had been chosen vice president by the electors.

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#### XIV. — JOHN QUINCY ADAMS'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. MR. ADAMS was inaugurated March 4, 1825. Peace with foreign nations, and quiet at home, characterized his

administration. The country continued its onward career of prosperity.

2. The fiftieth anniversary of American independence, July 4, 1826, in addition to the fact of its completing the first half century of our national existence, was rendered the more remarkable on account of the death of John Adams and of Thomas Jefferson, the second and third of the presidents. They were both members of the committee for preparing the "Declaration of Independence;" Mr. Jefferson was the author of it, and Mr. Adams was its great advocate in Congress. That these two men should die on the *same* day, and *that* day the "Fourth of July," 1826, was truly a most surprising coincidence.

3. In the presidential election of 1828 Mr. Adams was a candidate for reëlection, and General Jackson was his rival. General Jackson was chosen president by a large majority, and John C. Calhoun was again elected vice president. Mr. Adams, like his father, had served but four years.

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## XV.—JACKSON'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. GENERAL JACKSON was inaugurated as president of the United States March 4, 1829. The prominent events of this administration were, hostilities of the Sacs, Foxes, and Winnebagoes, under the celebrated Indian chief Black Hawk;—the Indians were defeated, Black Hawk was taken prisoner, and a treaty was made;—discontents in South Carolina arising from dissatisfaction with the tariff laws;—failure to recharter the United States Bank.

2. On the 4th of March, 1833, General Jackson entered

upon a second term of his presidency. Martin Van Buren, of New York, had been chosen vice-president. The principal events of this term were, the removal of the government funds from the Bank of the United States; sad tidings of the death of Lafayette, at La Grange, in France; war with the Florida Indians; the admission of Arkansas in 1836, and of Michigan in 1837, as independent states.

3. The first permanent European settlement in Michigan was made at Detroit, in 1701, by the French. On the reduction of Canada, in 1760, Michigan passed into the hands of the English; but the English garrison at Fort Mackinaw was massacred by the Indians in 1763, and Fort Detroit was closely besieged by Pontiac, a celebrated Indian chief, for nearly a year, when it was relieved by the approach of a large reënforcement from Quebec. Fort Detroit was not delivered up to the United States until 1796, at which time Michigan formed a part of the territory north-west of the Ohio. In 1805 the Territory of Michigan was established, with a distinct government. It was admitted to the Union in 1837.

4. The presidential election in 1836 resulted in the choice of Martin Van Buren, of New York, as president, and Richard M. Johnson, of Kentucky, as vice president.



## XVI.—VAN BUREN'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. MR. VAN BUREN took the oath of office on the 4th of March, 1837. The principal events of his administration were, the suspension of specie payments by all the banks in the country, extra session of Congress, the Seminole war continued, difficulties about the boundary line

between Maine and New Brunswick, troubles on the Canada border, passage of the *Sub-Treasury Bill* in 1840. The election for president in the autumn of 1840 resulted in the choice of General William H. Harrison, of Ohio. John Tyler, of Virginia, was elected vice president.

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### XVII.—HARRISON'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. On the 4th of March, 1841, General Harrison was inaugurated as president of the United States. A new and able cabinet was formed, at the head of which was Daniel Webster. Every thing seemed to give promise of an honorable and useful administration of the affairs of government, when, in just one month from his inauguration, President Harrison died. The mourning throughout the nation was sincere and deep; the hand of the Almighty was acknowledged in the sad event.

2. It is provided in the constitution, that in case of the death of the president, his duties shall devolve on the vice president. Hence Mr. Tyler became the acting president of the United States for the remainder of the term.

3. The prominent events of MR. TYLER'S ADMINISTRATION were, the settlement of the north-eastern boundary by the treaty of Washington, which was negotiated by Mr. Webster and Lord Ashburton; commercial treaty with China; annexation of Texas to the United States, March, 1845; and Florida and Iowa admitted into the Union.

4. Previous to 1832 Iowa was principally occupied by the Sioux (*sooz*) Indians, one of the most numerous and powerful tribes in the United States. They called them-

selves Dacotahs, or confederates, and were a terror to all the neighboring tribes. In 1832 the United States purchased their lands of them. Most of them have since removed to the Indian Territory.

5. Texas was one of the Mexican States previous to the year 1835, when it declared itself independent. The Texans maintained their declaration in several severe battles, especially in that of San Jacinto, on the 21st of April, 1836, when General Santa Anna, the president of Mexico, was taken prisoner, and his army defeated.

6. The candidates for the presidency in 1844 were, Henry Clay, of Kentucky, and James K. Polk, of Tennessee. The choice fell upon the latter; and George M. Dallas was chosen vice president.

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#### XVIII.—POLK'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. MR. POLK took the oath of office on the 4th of March, 1845. The chief events and measures of this administration were, the death of General Jackson; the establishing of the Smithsonian Institute; the admission of Texas as a state in 1846; settlement of the northern boundary of Oregon; war with Mexico; defeat of the Mexican army under Santa Anna by General Taylor, in February, 1847; siege and capture of Vera Cruz by General Scott, in March; conquest of the Mexican capital by General Scott, September 14, 1847; treaty of peace approved by the United States Senate March 10, and ratified by the Mexican Congress May 30, 1848.

2. On the 8th of June, Ex-President Jackson, the "Hero of New Orleans," died at his residence, the Hermitage, in Tennessee, in the 79th year of his age. For

many years he had occupied a prominent place in the affairs of the nation, manifesting throughout an honesty of purpose, and a true desire to promote the good of his country.

3. Congress, during its session of 1845-46, passed a bill for establishing the "Smithsonian Institute." This institution was endowed by James Smithson, Esq., a generous and philanthropic Englishman, who, in 1835, left to the United States half a million of dollars, "to found at Washington an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men."

4. THE WAR WITH MEXICO. — The admission of Texas into the Union, while claimed by Mexico as her province, soon led to a serious and open rupture with Mexico. General Taylor was ordered to break up his camp at Corpus Christi, in Texas, to pass the River Nueces, claimed by Mexico as her boundary, and to take post on the left bank of the Rio Grande, within the territory mutually claimed by Texas and Mexico. This act was considered by Mexico as a sufficient cause of war.

5. On the 8th of March, 1846, General Taylor reached Point Isabel, near the mouth of the Rio Grande, where he deposited a portion of his stores, under a guard. He then proceeded to the mouth of the river, opposite to Matamoras, where he commenced a fort, afterwards called Fort Brown. On the 24th of April, Captain Thornton, with sixty-three dragoons, was sent up the river to reconnoitre; but he fell into a Mexican ambuscade, and was compelled to surrender to a superior force, after sixteen had been killed or wounded. This was the first blood shed in this war.

6. General Taylor, hearing that Point Isabel was about being assailed, left Major Brown in command of the fort, and marched towards Point Isabel, leaving instructions that in case the fort was attacked, signal guns should be





fired. On the third day after his departure the Mexican battery at Matamoras was opened upon the fort; General Taylor, hearing the signal guns, left Point Isabel on his return, with two thousand men. At noon, on the 8th of May, he met a Mexican force of six thousand men on the prairie of Palo Alto. A battle ensued, which lasted about five hours. The Mexicans were driven from their position, and the Americans encamped upon the battle field. The loss of the enemy was about one hundred killed; that of the Americans but four killed and forty wounded, among whom were Major Ringgold and Captain Page.

7. The next day General Taylor resumed his march towards Fort Brown; but on the way he discovered the Mexicans again drawn up in battle array, at a place called Resaca de la Palma. Another battle was fought, in which the Mexicans were again beaten.<sup>1</sup> General Taylor then proceeded to Fort Brown. On the 18th of May he took possession of the city of Matamoras; and soon after, Mexico made a formal declaration of war against the United States.

8. After occupying Matamoras, General Taylor pre-

<sup>1</sup> It was during this battle that the celebrated charge of Captain May occurred. A Mexican battery, under command of General La Vega, was doing great execution, when May was ordered to take it. "I will do it," said he, at the same time wheeling his troops, and pointing them to the battery, pouring forth its terrific explosions. "Remember your regiment! men, follow!" He struck his charger, and bounded on before them, while a deafening cheer answered his call; and immediately the whole were dashing towards the cannons' mouths. May outstripped them. Wonderful was his escape, wonderful the escape of so many of his followers, exposed as they were to so fearful a fire. At a single bound May's horse cleared the battery; the horses of a few others were equal to the leap; wheeling again, they drove the gunners off, and took possession of the battery, which they now employed against the enemy. It was a bold, perilous enterprise, but greatly added to the issues of the day.

pared, by order of the government, to advance into the interior of Mexico from several quarters at the same time. The preparations occupied most of the summer of 1846. Towards the last of August the army under General Taylor, with Generals Worth, Twiggs, and Butler, as chiefs of the several divisions, proceeded towards Monterey, the capital of New Leon. On the 9th of September the troops arrived at Walnut Springs, within three miles of Monterey. The attack commenced on the 20th; the battle raged until the 24th, when the Mexican general, Ampudia, prepared to surrender. A suspension of hostilities was arranged for that purpose, and terms of capitulation were agreed upon. The Mexicans, numbering about nine thousand men, were allowed to retire with the honors of war; and an armistice of eight weeks was allowed, unless sooner revoked by either of the governments.

9. On the 13th of October General Taylor received orders from the war department of the United States to terminate the armistice, and renew offensive operations. The American forces were located at various points for the purpose. The division under General Worth occupied Saltillo; General Patterson took possession of Victoria; the port of Tampico was captured by Commodore Perry. Earlier in the season, General Kearney had taken possession of Santa Fé and all New Mexico; and General Wool, having been prevented from marching to Chihuahua, had joined General Worth at Saltillo.

10. On the 25th of September General Kearney left Santa Fé, at the head of four hundred dragoons, for the California settlements; but learning that the Americans, under Captain Fremont and Commodore Stockton, were already in possession of that country, he sent back three quarters of his force. With a portion of General Kearney's command, Colonel Doniphan marched through the

enemy's country from Santa Fé to Saltillo, and in well-fought battles against far greater numbers, he secured the towns of El Paso in December, and Chihuahua in February, 1847.

11. In February, 1847, General Taylor was in Agua Nueva, with a force of about five thousand men; and learning that Santa Anna, the Mexican general, was advancing against him with an army of twenty-two thousand, he broke up his camp, on the 21st of February, and fell back to Buena Vista, where he drew up his army to await the approach of the enemy. Some skirmishing ensued on the 22d; but before sunrise of the 23d the Mexicans began the attack. The conflict was long, desperate, and doubtful; but at the critical moment the batteries of Bragg and Sherman came up and decided the contest. The Mexicans were driven from the field in disorder, and with great loss. The victory of Buena Vista secured to the Americans the frontier of the Rio Grande, and left them free to direct their whole force against Vera Cruz, the conquest of which was deemed necessary in order to reach the capital of Mexico.

12. The reduction of Vera Cruz, with its castle of San Juan de Ulua, was intrusted to General Scott, the commander-in-chief, who, with a force of twelve thousand men, conveyed by a squadron under Commodore Conner, landed a short distance south of the city without opposition. This was early in March, 1847. The city was invested on the 13th; on the 18th, the bombardment commenced, and the batteries began their fire on the 22d. Early on the morning of the 29th of March, Vera Cruz and the fortress were surrendered to the Americans. Leaving a garrison to keep possession of the city, the commander-in-chief commenced his march towards the Mexican capital. At the mountain pass of Cerro Gordo,

he was opposed by Santa Anna, who had fortified the several heights commanding that pass. On the 18th of April General Scott took height after height, until all were in his possession. More than a thousand Mexicans were killed, three thousand were taken prisoners, and General Santa Anna fled on a mule taken from his carriage, leaving his cork leg behind.

13. General Scott resumed his march, and by the 15th of May, Jalapa, the strong castle of Perote, and La Puebla were successively captured. He remained at the latter place till August 7, when, having received reënforcements, he again moved forward. By the 18th, the army, amounting to nearly eleven thousand men, had reached San Augustin, ten miles from Mexico. In the afternoon of the next day (August 19) some fighting occurred in the vicinity of Contreras, and a little past midnight the battle commenced in earnest. One after another the strong posts of Contreras, San Antonia, and Churubusco were carried by the Americans in the course of the day. In these battles thirty-two thousand Mexicans had been engaged and defeated by about nine thousand Americans.

14. At this point an effort was made by General Scott to negotiate a treaty of peace with the Mexican government; but failing in this, he pressed forward with renewed energy to the capital. On the 8th of September General Worth stormed and carried the Molina del Rey, and the Casa de Mata, the chief outer defences of Chapultepec; and on the 13th the citadel itself was taken by storm, but with a very heavy loss to the American army. The day following the fall of Chapultepec, September 14, the "stars and stripes" were unfurled to the breeze, above the walls of the national palace of Mexico. This event may be considered as closing the war.

15. A treaty of peace was made by the American com-

missioner and the Mexican government, at Guadalupe Hidalgo, February 2d, 1848. This treaty was afterwards adopted, with some alterations, by the Senate of the United States, and then confirmed by the Mexican Congress on the 30th of May. The most important provisions of the treaty were those by which Mexico ceded to the United States all the territory now embraced in New Mexico, Utah, and California; for which Mexico was to receive fifteen millions of dollars; and the United States were to relinquish "all castles, forts, territories, places, and possessions" not embraced in the ceded territory.

16. On the 23d of February, 1848, John Quincy Adams, a former president of the United States, expired at Washington, while attending to his duties in Congress. He was suddenly struck with paralysis during the debates in the House of Representatives. He was removed to the speaker's room, in the Capitol, where he breathed his last, having been employed in the service of his country for more than sixty years.

17. In May, 1848, Wisconsin was admitted into the Union. This state was formerly inhabited by the Chipewa, Winnebago, and other tribes of Indians; but the lands were purchased of them by the United States, and most of them have long since gone to the Indian Territory, west of the Mississippi. It was visited by the French, and settlements were made as early as 1670. Marquette and Joliet passed through this territory on their route to discover the Mississippi. At the peace of Paris, in 1763, it was ceded to Great Britain. After the revolutionary war the territory was successively connected with the respective States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Michigan; but it was organized into an independent territory in 1836. It was admitted into the Union in 1848.

18. Mr. Polk was succeeded in the presidency by Gen-

eral Zachary Taylor, of Louisiana. Millard Fillmore, of New York, was elected vice president.

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### XIX. — TAYLOR'S ADMINISTRATION.

1. THE 4th of March, 1849, occurring on the Sabbath, General Taylor took the oath of office on the 5th of March. But few important measures signaled his administration. The death of Mr. Polk, the late president, occurred in June, 1849, at his residence, in Nashville, Tennessee. On the 31st of March, 1850, John C. Calhoun, formerly a vice president, died at Washington, while a senator from South Carolina.

2. On the 9th of July, 1850, Zachary Taylor, the president of the United States, died in the president's mansion, at Washington—the result of exposure and fatigue on the previous 4th of July. The news of this national bereavement was received with heartfelt sorrow and deep regret by all. On the day following, Mr. Fillmore assumed the duties of president, as provided by the constitution.

3. It is an admirable feature of the constitution of the United States, that it provides, in case of the death of a president, for the ready and quiet transfer of all his powers to the vice president, as his constitutional successor; and a most interesting hour was that, when, on the day following the death of General Taylor, and while his remains were still reposing in the national mansion, Mr. Fillmore took the oath of the presidential office, in the presence of both houses of Congress. It was a service which occupied but a brief space; but in that short time, a transfer of all executive power was quietly effected, and the machinery of government was again moving, with its accustomed regularity and harmonious action.

4. The principal events of MR. FILLMORE'S ADMINISTRATION were, the admission of California, in 1850, as a free state; the organization of New Mexico and Utah as separate territories; settlement of the Texas boundary; the passage of an act called the "Fugitive Slave Law;" the suppression of the slave trade in the District of Columbia; the death of Henry Clay, at Washington, in June, 1852; and the death of Daniel Webster, at Marshfield, Mass., in October, 1852.

5. At the presidential election in November, 1852, General Winfield Scott was the whig candidate, and General Franklin Pierce was the candidate of the democratic party. General Pierce, having a majority of the votes of the electoral college, was elected president, and William R. King, of Alabama, vice president.



## QUESTIONS.

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These Questions are designed to furnish a test to the pupil himself, by which he can ascertain whether he has acquired his assigned lesson. They may or they may not be used by the teacher in his examinations. The *maps* should be consulted with *every lesson*.

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I. DISCOVERIES. — 1. By whom and when was America discovered? Where was he born? What do you know of his early life?

2. Give an account of a sea fight with a Venetian war vessel.

3. What was the character of the ships and sailors of that age? What was the common idea of the shape of the earth? Were there any signs of improvement in the knowledge of navigation? What led to it?

4. What country did Columbus visit at this period? Relate some of the circumstances.

5. Of what advantage was this connection to Columbus? In what business did he become engaged?

6. What route was pursued in going to India?

7. What were its disadvantages? What became a great object of inquiry at that time? Who was specially interested in it? In what way did he manifest his interest?

8. What questions was Columbus revolving in his mind? To what conclusions did he come?

9. What resolution did he form? To whom did he first apply for assistance in his enterprise? With what result?

10. Where did he next go? How was he treated by the King of Portugal?

11. What third attempt did he make? *What important lesson does this example of Columbus teach?*

12. How was his application received at the court of Spain? How much of a fleet had he?

13. From what seaport in Spain did Columbus set sail? At what group of islands did he touch? What course did he steer from the Canaries? [Turn to the map and trace his voyage from Palos.]

14. What alarmed the crew? What did they think of doing? How did Columbus quiet their fears?

15. What did they begin to see which showed that land was not far off?

16. What was noticed by Columbus as he was upon deck one night? What followed?

17. What did the morning light reveal to them? How were they all affected by what they saw?

18. What was the appearance of the land? What sort of people were there? How did they behave?

19. In what manner did Columbus and his companions land upon the shore? What ceremonies were then performed? When was this? What was that island called by the natives? What name did Columbus give it? To what collection of islands does it belong? Find its latitude and longitude on the map. Which way is it from Cuba? — from the city of Washington?

20. What surprised the Spaniards? — what the natives?

21. What other lands were discovered at that time? Which way is Hayti from Cuba? What island lies nearly west from Hayti? What island nearly east?

22. At what time did he reach Palos on his return to Spain? How long had he been gone? How was he received by the people? How by the king and queen? What did Columbus tell them? How was King Ferdinand affected by what he heard?

23. How many voyages did Columbus make in all? In which did he discover the continent of South America? What do you know of his death?

24. Who was Americus Vespuceus, and what is related of him? Is it at all probable that the name of Columbus will ever be forgotten in this part of the world? Do you know of any places in North America that bear his name?

25. To whom belongs the honor of having first discovered the continent of North America? When was it? Under what government did the Cabots perform their voyage? What further explorations were made by Sebastian Cabot? Why did the English lay claim to North America?

26. Who was Verrazani? Under what government did he sail? When was it? What explorations did he make? What name did he give the country? When did Cartier make a voyage to America? Under whose patronage? What island did he visit? What further discoveries did Cartier make on his second voyage. Why did the French lay claim to North America?

27. When did De Soto come to America? What great river was discovered by him? What became of De Soto? Find Labrador on your map, and tell which way it is from your town. Which way is Newfoundland from Labrador? What strait separates these lands? What bodies of water surround Newfoundland? Which way is Montreal from the strait of Belle Isle? What is the course of the Mississippi River? Into what does it flow.

II. SETTLEMENTS. — *Virginia.* 1. What was the condition of North America previous to 1607?

2. What had been done in South America? What was going on in England with reference to this country?

3. Their voyage across the Atlantic? When and where did they commence their settlement?

4. What difficulties did the colonists experience?

5. What is said of John Smith?

6. Of his condition while in Constantinople?

7. Give an account of his joining the Virginia expedition.

8. Relate the story of the Indian idol. How did he manage in his intercourse with the Indians?

9, 10. Relate his adventure on the River Chickahominy. How did the Indians capture him?

11. What did they do with him?

12. By whom was Smith about to be killed? What prevented? How did the affair terminate?

13. In what condition did Smith find the colony on his return? How did he prevent their abandoning the settlement?

14. What saved the colonists from starvation? What fortunate arrival occurred at that time?

15, 16, 17. Relate the circumstances of their gold-digging.

18. How did Smith pass his time? To what office was he chosen on his return from his expedition? — and what followed?

19. How many ships and emigrants were sent to Virginia in

1609? What misfortune befell one of the vessels? What sort of people were most of the emigrants? How did Smith maintain his authority over them?

20. What did the Indians determine to do, to prevent the whites from overpowering them? Who revealed the plot to Smith?

21. Why was Smith obliged to go to England? What course did the Indians take when they found that Smith had gone away? What was the condition of the colony in six months?

22. What was done when the officers of the colony arrived from the Bermudas? What prevented?

23. Give an account of Lord Delaware's administration.

24. Of what treacherous conduct was Captain Argal guilty?

25. What incident occurred while Pocahontas was at Jamestown? What followed? When Mr. Rolfe visited England with his bride, how was she received there? What sad event took place?

26. When and how was slavery introduced into Virginia?

27. What Indian chief plotted the destruction of the English settlers in 1622?

28. How did the Indians prevent suspicion of their designs? When and how did the massacre begin, and what was accomplished?

29. How did the English retaliate? To what extremities was the colony reduced in 1624?

30. Describe the civil war of 1676. How many inhabitants were there in Virginia in 1688?

III. SETTLEMENTS. — *New York.* — 1. Who was Henry Hudson, and when did he come to this country? What river did he explore and give a name to? What changes have taken place since then?

2. When and where did the Dutch begin settlements? Which of the countries in Europe is inhabited by the Dutch.

3. What war broke out in 1643? What do you know about Captain Underhill?

4. Give an account of a battle with the Indians near Horseneck.

5. What disputes did the Dutch have with the people of New England? Why did the King of England interfere?

6. What event occurred in 1664?

7. What in 1673 ?

8, 9. Who was sent by the Duke of York, as governor, after it was restored to the English ? What privileges were granted to the colonists after the recall of Andros ?

10. Who became King of England in 1685 ? Why was he disliked both at home and abroad ? What joyous news came over from England in 1689 ?

11. What course was taken by the people ? Who assumed the government ?

12. Between what countries in Europe was war declared in 1689 ?

13. Who was governor of Canada then ? Against what places did he send a party of French and Indians ? In what year was this ?

14, 15. Give an account of the destruction of Schenectady.

16. What attempt was made to avenge these cruelties ? Why did the expedition fail ?

17. What occurred between Colonel Sloughter and Leisler ?

18. How was the execution of Leisler and Milborne brought about ?

19. Describe Peter Schuyler's expedition.

20. Who was governor of New York in 1692 ? Who in 1698 ? What is related of pirates ?

21. What measures were taken to destroy them ?

22. Relate the story of Captain Kidd.

23. Who was governor of New York in 1743 ? What troubles occurred with the French and Indians ?

24. How was the colony relieved from these troubles in 1748 ?

IV. PLYMOUTH COLONY. — 1. What is said of the Puritans in England ?

2, 3. Of their voyage to America, and their explorations ?

4. When and where did they conclude to form a settlement ? What was the condition of things around them ? Of how many did their company consist ?

5, 6. What is said of the Indians ?

7. What Indian chief came to see them ? Give an account of the interview. What treaty was formed ?

8. What is related of the sufferings of the Pilgrims ? To what number had the colony increased in ten years ?

**MASSACHUSETTS BAY COLONY.** — 9. When and where was the Massachusetts Bay colony commenced? How many persons came over in 1630, and what towns were begun? What was the character of these emigrants? Why did they leave England?

10. Give an account of their hardships in their new homes.

11. Relate the story of Lady Arabella Johnson.

12. How did they bear their trials?

13. Which was the first permanent English settlement in New England? Origin of the name of the Massachusetts colony? Which of these colonies increased most rapidly? What distinguished character came over in 1635? What is related of him?

14. When and where was Maine first settled? With what colony was Maine united in 1652, and how long did the union last? What other colony was formed in 1623, and what is said of it? What colony was founded in 1635? In 1636? In 1638? In what year was Vermont first settled?

15. What is remarked of the Massasoit treaty? Who were the Pequods, and what did they do?

16. What events followed? Who was appointed to command the expedition against the Pequods?

17, 18, 19. Relate all the circumstances.

20. What colonies formed a union in 1643? Why?

21. With what feelings did the Indians view the increasing numbers of English settlers among them? Do you suppose the Indians were alone to blame?

22. What did the Indians fear?

23. Give an account of King Philip. What resolution did he form?

24, 25. How did he proceed to accomplish his purpose?

26. Relate the circumstances of the attack on Swanzy, in 1675. What followed?

27. Give an account of the pursuit of Philip.

28. What happened at Springfield? At Muddy Brook?

29. Places attacked by the Indians in Maine and New Hampshire? Describe the attack on Brookfield, Massachusetts.

30. Who came to the relief of those in the house?

31. What powerful tribe was it thought necessary to humble? Where were they? How large an army was sent against the Narragansetts?

32. What was the result?

33. What comparison is made between the English and the Indians?

34. What event closed the war? Give the circumstances of the death of King Philip.

35. How long had the war continued? What amount of destruction was incurred by the English colonists? What was the loss and suffering to the Indians? What is their present condition?

36. What new difficulties arose after Philip's war was over?

37. What pretence was set up against the colonies? How were they to be punished? What were these charters? Who was King of England then? Who was sent over, in 1686, to take away the charters?

38. What was his official capacity? Which of the colonies hid their charter?

39. What was the character of his government?

40. In what year did Andros begin to act as royal governor? What happened in England two years after? How did this change of kings affect the colonies in America? What did the Boston people do with Governor Andros and his party?

41. What strange delusion prevailed in 1692? How did it begin?

42. How did those children account for it? What was done with her?

43. How did it affect others?

44. What was very strange in all this? How did people account for it?

45. What had been done in England about witchcraft? Was it thought proper to do the same at Salem?

46. How far was the matter carried?

47. What put a stop to it?

48. With what feelings should we reflect upon that delusion? What does justice require of us?

49. What war began soon after William III. acceded to the throne of England? Name the French settlements in America at that time. What effect had King William's war upon the American colonies? Give a general view of the doings of the French and Indians.

50, 51. Describe the attack on Haverhill, in 1697.

52, 53, 54. Relate the circumstances of Mrs. Dustan's captivity.

55, 56. When did Queen Anne's war begin, and what was done by the French and Indians? Describe the attack on Deerfield, and the affair of Rev. Mr. Williams's family.

57. When was this war closed? What had the English taken from the French? What country still belonged to the French?

58. What is related of the Indians in Maine in 1722? How long did this continue?

59. When did King George's war begin? What was the chief event of that war in America? Describe Louisburg. How large a force was to be sent against it, and under whose command?

60. Give an account of the siege and capture of Louisburg.

61. In what year did King George's war close?

V. NEW JERSEY, DELAWARE, &c. — 1. When was New Jersey first settled, and by what people? What occurred in 1664? In 1676? In 1702?

2. When and where was Delaware first settled? Describe the country.

3. What occurred to mar the people's enjoyment?

4. How was the act of Risingh avenged? How long did Delaware remain in possession of the Dutch?

5. What change took place in 1682? Give the remainder of its history.

6. What was going on in England at the time of these settlements in America? What is related of Lord Baltimore?

7. What prevented the consummation of his plans? What was his son Cecil determined to do?

8. At what Indian village did the party of Calvert stop, on their arrival? How did they obtain a right to the land?

9. How did the colonists obtain food?

10. Upon what principle was this colony founded? What other colony was like it in this respect?

11. Relate the affair of Clayborne.

12. How large was the colony of Maryland in 1666? What occurred ten years after? What was Lord Baltimore's character? By whom was he succeeded as proprietor?

13. What more is said of Maryland?

14. What was the origin of "Mason and Dixon's Line"?

15. What grant did William Penn obtain from King Charles in 1681? What measures did Penn take to colonize his lands?

16. Relate the substance of Penn's letter to the Indians.
17. When did Penn himself arrive, and how large a company came with him? How did Penn treat the Indians?
18. Of what city was Penn the founder?
19. Give an account of the growth, government, &c., of Pennsylvania.
20. When did Penn make a second visit to his province? What did he do about the charter? What was the trouble with Delaware, and how was that colony appeased?
21. When did Penn die? State some circumstances of his life and character.
22. What was the condition of the colony after the death of Penn?
23. When and by what people was North Carolina settled? Of what religious sect were the Virginians? Did they adopt a liberal policy? What was a consequence of their intolerance? Describe the country about Albemarle Sound.
24. When did the King of England make a formal grant of the Carolinas, and to whom? What inducements did the proprietors hold out to settlers? Who was made governor of the colony?
25. Give an account of the founding of South Carolina, in 1670, by William Sayle.
26. Where did some Frenchmen settle in 1707? some Germans in 1710?
27. What awful calamity befell these French and German settlers?
28. How did the Indians effect their object?
29. Who was sent against the Indians, and with what results?
30. When the Indians renewed their hostilities, what means were taken to conquer them? What became of the Tuscaroras?
31. What change took place, in 1729, in the Carolinas?
32. When and by whom was Georgia first settled? At what place? What was Oglethorpe's object in founding this colony?
33. How many English emigrants came over in 1733? What others came in 1735? Was this a flourishing colony?
34. Give an account of General Oglethorpe's invasion of Florida in 1740.
35. How did the Spaniards attempt to retaliate?
36. What force had Oglethorpe to defend himself?

37. How did he continue to deceive the Spaniards?

38. What change took place in the colony in 1754? What articles did the people begin to cultivate?

VI. FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR.—1. In what year did the old French war begin? How many British colonies were there at that time?

2. Where were the French settlements? How did they intend connecting their northern and southern settlements?

3. What lands did some people from Virginia attempt to settle about the same time? What did the French do to them? Why had the English attempted a settlement in that region? To whom did they apply for redress?

4. What course did Governor Dinwiddie think it best to take first? Who was selected as a suitable person for this purpose?

5. What was the French commander's reply? Was it satisfactory to the governor of Virginia? What did he resolve to do? What fort did Washington approach? What city now stands on the spot where that fort was?

6. Describe the conflict which took place between Washington's men and the French.

7. When the British government heard of this, what was it resolved to do? What British officer came over in 1755? For what did he begin to prepare?

8. What preparations were necessary? With what force did General Braddock commence his march? What remark is made about General Braddock?

9. What caution was given him? Describe his approach to Fort Du Quesne.

10. How was he surprised? What followed?

11. What happened to General Braddock? Who saved the army from total destruction? What was the loss?

12. What other expeditions were undertaken that year? With what results?

13. What was the determination of England and France in the spring of 1756? When was war formally declared between those nations? What great mistake was committed by the English government in the appointment of officers? What was accomplished in 1756?

14. What was accomplished by the English in 1757? Why?

15. What was the principal event of that year? Where was that fort? By whom was it garrisoned? What other fort was in that vicinity? Who occupied it?

16. What French commander went against Fort William Henry? Describe the scene.

17. What was Colonel Monroe's conduct on the occasion? What was the result of the siege? What did the French general promise with regard to the English prisoners? How was the promise kept?

18, 19. Describe the scene.

20. Who was at the head of affairs in England in 1758? What course did he take? What two important places were taken from the French, and by what generals?

21. Describe the preparations for taking Ticonderoga.

22. What British officer was killed? What is said of him? Of the soldiers?

23. For how long did the British storm the fort?

24. What was Lord Abercrombie obliged to do? What loss had he suffered? What was the result of the attack on Fort Frontenac? Where was that fort?

25. What forts were taken by the English in 1759? Which was the most important event of the campaign? Describe Quebec.

26. What was Mr. Pitt resolved to do? Whom did he appoint to command the expedition? Who were his associates?

27. When did Wolfe arrive at Quebec? What was his first object? Against whom had he to contend?

28, 29. What important position was gained by General Wolfe? Give the particulars.

30. How was Montcalm affected when he heard of it? What course did he take? Describe the conflict.

31. Give the particulars of General Wolfe's death.

32. What event followed five days after the battle? What is the *present* capital of Canada?

33. Give the closing incidents of the French and Indian war.

VII. THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR. — 1. What conduct was manifested towards the English colonies soon after the old French war? How had the British government generally behaved towards them? How were the colonists disposed towards the mother country?

2. What was the chief cause of offence to the colonies? Why did the British government do this? Why were the Americans unwilling to comply?

3. Which party was right? What effect had the acts of the British Parliament in the colonies? What was done in Boston to prevent a rebellion?

4. Where were the British troops quartered? How did these soldiers pass their time? Did it please the people of Boston to see these military shows in their streets every day?

5. What happened on the 2d of March, 1770?

6, 7, 8. Describe the scene, in State Street, Boston, which occurred on the 5th of March, 1770.

9, 10. What was the state of feeling among the people? What was done to allay the excitement? Describe the funeral of those who were killed; the trial of the soldiers; the result.

11. What was done by Parliament in March, 1770? What ought it to have done?

12. How were the revenue officers treated? Relate the "tar and feather" case.

13. What was the condition of affairs in 1772?

14. Give an account of the tea which arrived in Philadelphia, New York, and Charleston.

15. What measures were taken with regard to three cargoes of tea that came to Boston?

16. What was done at a town meeting?

17. Where did they go from the town meeting? What took place there?

18. How was the news of these proceedings received in England? What bill was passed by Parliament? What is meant by the Boston Port Bill?

19. What is said of other laws? What sort of people did the British Parliament suppose the Americans to be?

20. What feelings prevailed throughout the colonies, and how were they manifested?

21. What was done by General Gage at Boston?

22. On what day did the Port Bill go into operation? Give the particulars.

23. How was that day observed in other parts of the country? What generous spirit was manifested by the Salem and Marblehead merchants?

24. Relate the war preparations.

25-28. Tell the story of the boys on Boston Common.

29. What was the state of feeling all over the country at that time? What event roused this feeling into action?

30. What preparation was made by the people of Lexington to receive the British soldiers? When they arrived, what were the Americans ordered to do? Did they heed it? What followed? To what place did the British next go?

31. How much destruction did they accomplish at Concord? While all this was going on, what were the people about?

32, 33. You may finish the story.

34. What were the consequences of this first conflict with the British troops?

35. What circumstance is mentioned as having occurred at Barnstable?

36-39. What in Connecticut?

40. Relate the anecdote of General Putnam.

41. What number of men had assembled about Boston in the course of a few weeks after the battle of Lexington? In what condition were they?

42. What was the condition of this country at that time?

43. What of Great Britain? What was the general belief in Europe? What was the faith of our fathers? In whom did they confide for success?

44. The war having begun, what was the next move on the part of the Americans? Relate the circumstances of the capture of those forts. How did the militia annoy the British in Boston?

45. What had General Gage determined to do? How were the Americans to prevent it? How much was done by dawn of day? What did the British think of it?

46. What movement was made by the British troops on the 17th of June?

47. Did the Americans stop building their fort? Who were the principal men among them? What was the character of all, men as well as officers?

48. What added to the horrors of the scene? How did the Americans receive the enemy?

49, 50. Who led the British? You may go on and give the particulars of the battle.

51. What was the loss on each side? What did the British think of it?

52. What name is given to that battle? What was its effect upon the American people? What American officer was killed in that battle?

53. Where was the Continental Congress assembled? Whom did they appoint commander-in-chief of the American army? Where did Washington join the army? How large was the army? What was necessary to be done for them?

54, 55. What expeditions were planned in the latter part of the year 1775? Give the particulars of the attack on Quebec.

56. What was accomplished by General Washington in the spring of 1776?

57. What important event occurred on the 4th of July, 1776? How was it received by the American people? What political effect had it upon the colonies?

[The teacher should require the Declaration of Independence to be repeatedly read as a class exercise.]

58. Against what place did the British send a powerful army, in August, 1776? What battles followed, and with what results? Where is Brooklyn? White Plains?

59. What movement on the part of General Washington revived the hopes of the Americans? Give the particulars. In what state is Trenton? In what part?

60. When did the battle of Princeton occur, and how did it terminate? Why is James Monroe mentioned in connection with that battle? Where did Washington's army encamp after that battle? Where is Morristown?

61. What movement did General Howe make in September, 1776? What occurred on the 26th of the month?

62. Describe the movements of General Burgoyne in Canada. By whom was Burgoyne's progress opposed? What took place on the 16th of August at Bennington? Where is Bennington?

63. What battles occurred on the 18th September and 7th October? Which army was defeated? Give the particulars of the battle of Saratoga.

64. What European nation was the first to acknowledge the independence of these colonies? In what year was it? With what did France accompany her acknowledgment? What effect had this upon the government of Great Britain?

65. What did England offer to do? How was it met by Congress? Why? Relate the anecdote of Joseph Reed.
66. What remark is made of this?
67. When did the British leave Philadelphia? To what city did they march? What took place at Monmouth? Where is Monmouth?
68. What is said of the arrival of Count d'Estaing?
69. Give the description of Wyoming. Point it out on the map.
70. Remark on the feelings of the British officers and soldiers at that period.
71. What had the people of Wyoming done to offend them? How were they to be punished for it? Give the particulars.
72. How many were cruelly murdered? Finish the narrative.
73. What city was taken by the English in 1779?
74. Give an account of Governor Tryon's marauding expedition into Connecticut. The anecdote of General Putnam.
75. What expedition was undertaken by the American General Sullivan, in August, 1779? What did he accomplish?
76. What other city was taken by the British, next after Savannah? When was this?
77. Give an account of the arrival of Count de Rochambeau, in July, 1780. What is said about dancing?
78. What did Washington intend to do now that the French had joined him? What prevented? What American general became a traitor to his country? What was his character? What important post was he about to give up to the enemy? With what British officer did Arnold have communication? What was the bargain?
79. What prevented the accomplishment of the plan? Give the particulars.
80. Who commanded the British troops in the south in 1781? Who had the command of the Americans in that quarter? What was the result of the campaign in the Carolinas?
81. In what marauding expeditions was Benedict Arnold engaged after he had turned traitor?
82. Where had Lord Cornwallis stationed his army in the summer of 1781? Where was Washington, and what did he determine to do? By what forces was he joined on his march towards Virginia?
83. How large was the combined army of Americans and

French? What defences had Cornwallis made at Yorktown? When did Washington open his fire upon the British? What followed? When did Lord Cornwallis surrender his army to General Washington?

84. What was an important effect resulting from this victory? When was the treaty of peace signed between Great Britain and the United States of America?

VIII. ADOPTION OF THE CONSTITUTION. — 1. Describe the state of affairs at the close of the war. What was wanting?

2. Give the remarks showing the necessity of government and laws in a community. What steps were taken to provide a government for the nation? When and where did the convention assemble? What was accomplished? When did the new constitution go into operation?

3. What are the three distinct branches of the government?

4. What constitutes the legislative branch? Where does Congress hold its meetings? Of what does the Senate consist? — the House of Representatives?

5. Who is at the head of the executive department? What are the duties of the president? By whom is the president assisted?

6. Of what is the judiciary composed?

[The Constitution should be used as a reading exercise by the class, the teacher making such comments as he may deem necessary.]

7. Who was chosen as the first president of the United States, under the new constitution? Who was vice president?

IX. WASHINGTON'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When was General Washington inaugurated as president of the United States? Where was Congress then assembled? What was the condition of affairs throughout the country?

2. What was the first duty of Congress at that time? How was this to be done? What next was done by Congress? When did the States of North Carolina and Rhode Island adopt the constitution? How many states were there then?

3. What new state was admitted into the Union in 1791? Give a sketch of the history of Vermont.

4. Where did an Indian war break out in 1790? Who was

sent to quell the Indians? With what result? Who succeeded General Harmar? What happened to General St. Clair? What was General Wayne's success?

5. When was Kentucky admitted into the Union? Give a sketch of its history.

6. When did President Washington begin his second term of office? Who was chosen vice president? By what was Washington's second term distinguished? When was Tennessee first settled? When did it become a state? When did General Washington retire from the presidency? What is remarked of his Farewell Address? Who succeeded General Washington as president? Who became vice president?

X. JOHN ADAMS'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When and where was Mr. Adams inaugurated? What was the state of the country? What difficulties soon occurred? What measures were taken? What terminated these difficulties?

2. What sad event took place on the 14th of December, 1799? Relate the circumstances of this event.

3. When was the seat of government transferred to the city of Washington?

4. What is given as a reason why Mr. Adams was not chosen for a second term? Who was his successor, and how was he elected? Who was vice president?

XI. JEFFERSON'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When was Mr. Jefferson inaugurated as president? Name the three leading events of his first term.

2. When was Ohio admitted into the Union? Give a sketch of its history.

3. Give an account of the purchase of Louisiana.

4. What duel was fought in July, 1804?

5. When Mr. Jefferson was chosen for a second term, who was chosen vice president in place of Aaron Burr? Name the three leading events of Mr. Jefferson's second term.

6. Give an account of the war with Tripoli.

7. In what conspiracy was Aaron Burr engaged in 1806? What was done with Burr?

8. While England and France were at war, in what business were some of the people of this country engaged? What "order

in council" was passed by the British government in May, 1806? What was its effect upon American commerce? How did Bonaparte, the French emperor, retaliate upon England? And what, in turn, was done by England against France?

9. What right was claimed by England in regard to American vessels? What course did our government take? What outrage was committed by a British frigate upon the American frigate Chesapeake? Why was it not immediately resented? What were the facts?

10. What was done by President Jefferson?

11. What were the British "orders in council," as passed in November, 1807? How was this measure met by Bonaparte?

12. What was the "embargo act" passed by Congress? Its effects? What was substituted for it?

13. How long was Mr. Jefferson president? By whom was he succeeded?

XII. MADISON'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When was Mr. Madison inaugurated as president of the United States? What important information did he receive from Mr. Erskine, the British minister? What proclamation was made by the president? Why was the proclamation revoked?

2. What is considered as the chief event of Mr. Madison's administration? What led to this war?

3. What annoyances were practised by England towards our merchant vessels?

4. What happened in the evening of May 16, 1811, off the capes of Virginia? Relate the circumstances.

5. Who was sent against the Wabash Indians, in 1811? Who were the chiefs of the tribes in that country? What proposition was made to General Harrison? What precaution did he take?

6. What took place on the 7th November, 1811? What followed? What name is given to this battle?

7. When was Louisiana admitted as a state?

8. What message did Mr. Madison send to Congress, June 1, 1812? What were his reasons urging a war?

9. How was the president's recommendation received by Congress? What measures were taken to prosecute the war?

10. Who was governor of Michigan Territory at the opening of

the war? What was he authorized to do? Give the particulars of his movements.

11. By whom was General Hull pursued? What strange proceedings occurred? How were his men affected? What surrender was made by Hull to the British?

12. What became of Hull?

13. What naval battle took place August 19, 1812?

14. What battle occurred in Canada, October 13? Give an account of it.

15, 16. What naval engagements are related in these sections?

17. Summary of the campaign of 1812?

18. What disposition was made of the American forces in 1813? Who commanded the British forces?

19. When did Mr. Madison begin his second term of the presidency?

20. What was the wish of the western people at that period? How was it brought about?

21. Describe the battle of the Thames.

22. What effect had the recapture of Detroit? What next became the leading object? What was the result of the plan?

23. Which was the sixth naval victory of the Americans?

24. How was Captain Lawrence rewarded for his capture of the Peacock? What did he learn on his arrival in Boston? Did he accept? What was the comparative condition of the two ships? When did Captain Lawrence sail? When did the action begin? How did it result?

25. What preparations had been made by Commodore Perry on Lake Erie? What was the force of the British?

26. When and where did the squadrons meet? Relate the circumstances. In what manner did Commodore Perry announce the battle to General Harrison?

27. What part of the Atlantic coast was blockaded by the British? What was done by them?

28. Who was sent against the Creek Indians, in 1814?

29. Relate what occurred along the Niagara frontier in that summer.

30. What British reinforcements came over in August, 1814? For what purpose?

31. What had been done to defend it?

32. Where did a battle take place? How did it terminate? What outrage was committed on the city?

33. What remark is made of this conduct?

34. What was General Ross's next point of attack? With what forces? What took place on the 12th of September? What prevented Colonel Brooke from renewing the attack? How were the Baltimore people affected by the results?

35. What occurred in Maine in August, 1814?

36. Give an account of the battle of Plattsburg and of Lake Champlain.

37. What memorable battle was fought on the 8th of January, 1815? What American general commanded in that battle? How many British troops were there? How many Americans, and what sort of soldiers were they? How did General Jackson prepare to receive the British? Who commanded the British?

38. Describe the approach and meeting of the armies.

39. What were the effects of the American fire? What act of a daring British officer is mentioned?

40. How long did the battle last, and what was the result?

41. What news arrived from Europe on the 17th of February? What is remarked about the war vessels at sea?

42. What new war occurred soon after peace with England? Give the particulars.

43. What took place at Tunis and Tripoli?

44. When was Indiana admitted into the Union? Give a sketch of its history.

45. What bank was incorporated by Congress in 1816? Who succeeded Mr. Madison as president?

XIII. MONROE'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When was James Monroe inaugurated president? What was the state of the nation then? Remark on western emigration.

2. What division was made of Mississippi Territory in 1817? Give a sketch of its history. War with the Seminoles and Creeks.

3. When was Illinois admitted into the Union? Give a sketch of its history.

4. What Spanish territory was ceded to the United States in February, 1819? When was Florida discovered? What was the origin of its name? Which is the oldest town in North America? When was it founded?

5. When was Alabama admitted into the Union? What is said of this territory?

6. When did Maine become one of the states? Give a sketch of its history.

7. When did Mr. Monroe's second term begin?

8. When was Missouri admitted? Who were the first settlers here? When was Fort Orleans built? Which is the oldest town? Which next? Finish the sketch.

9. What measures were taken in 1822 to break up the pirates in the West Indies?

10. What distinguished personage visited this country in 1824? Give the particulars of his visit.

11. Who were the candidates for the presidency in 1824? Who was chosen, and how?

XIV. JOHN QUINCY ADAMS'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When was Mr. Adams inaugurated? What was the state of the nation then?

2. What remarkable events took place on the 4th of July, 1826? Give the remarks.

3. By whom was Mr. Adams succeeded in the presidency? When?

XV. JACKSON'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When was General Jackson inaugurated? Name the prominent events of his administration.

2. When did General Jackson begin his second term? Who was then chosen vice president? What were the chief events of Jackson's second term?

3. Give an historical sketch of Michigan.

4. By whom was General Jackson succeeded?

XVI. VAN BUREN'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When was Mr. Van Buren inaugurated? Name the prominent events of his administration. Who was his successor?

XVII. HARRISON'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When was General Harrison inaugurated? Who was chosen secretary of state? How were the hopes of the nation disappointed?

2. How has the constitution provided for such an event?

3. Name the prominent events of Mr. Tyler's administration.
4. Give a sketch of the history of Iowa.
5. Give a sketch of Texas.
6. Who were candidates for the presidency in 1844? Who was chosen?

XVIII. POLK'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When was Mr. Polk inaugurated? Name the prominent events of his administration.

2. Death of General Jackson.

3. Give an account of the founding of the Smithsonian Institute.

4. Of what was the admission of Texas into the Union a cause? What movement was General Taylor ordered to make? How did Mexico consider the act?

5. When did General Taylor take post at Point Isabel? Where did he next build a fort? What was the first conflict of the war?

6. Why did General Taylor return to Point Isabel? What occurred at Fort Brown during his absence? Where did Taylor meet the Mexican force on the 8th of May? What was the result? What two officers did the Americans lose?

7. When and where was General Taylor's second battle with the Mexicans? Give the particulars. When was Matamoras taken by the Americans?

8. What plan of operations was formed, after General Taylor had taken Matamoras? Towards what city in the interior of Mexico did General Taylor proceed in August? Give an account of the capture of Monterey.

9. What orders were received by General Taylor on the 13th of October? How were the American forces stationed to carry on the war?

10. What movement was made by General Kearney on the 25th of September? Why did he alter his mind? Relate the exploit of Colonel Doniphan.

11. What intelligence did General Taylor receive at Agua Nueva? To what place did he fall back to await the approach of Santa Anna? Give particulars.

12. What important operations were confided to General Scott? Describe the siege and capture of Vera Cruz. Where was the next opposition encountered by General Scott? Flight of Santa Anna.

13. What three places were next captured by General Scott? How long did he remain at La Puebla? When and with what forces did General Scott reach San Augustine? What battles soon followed?

14. What did General Scott endeavor to do while at Churubusco? What posts were stormed and carried by General Worth? What followed next? When was the American flag displayed upon the national palace in Mexico?

15. When and where was a treaty of peace made? When was it ratified by the Mexican Congress? What were its most important provisions?

16. Narrate the time and circumstances of the death of John Quincy Adams.

17. When was Wisconsin admitted into the Union? Give a sketch of its history.

18. Who succeeded Mr. Polk as president of the United States? Who was made vice president?

XIX. GENERAL TAYLOR'S ADMINISTRATION. — 1. When did General Taylor take the oath of office? What events occurred in his administration?

2. When did President Taylor die? From what cause? Who succeeded him in office?

3. What is remarked on a provision of the constitution?

4. Name the chief events of Mr. Fillmore's administration.

5. Who were candidates for the presidency in 1852? Which received a majority of votes?

# CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

OF

## AMERICAN HISTORY.

CAREFULLY COMPILED.

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- 923. Discovery and settlement of Greenland by the Icelanders.
- 1435. Columbus born at Genoa, in Italy.
- 1492. Columbus discovers the Islands of Guanahani, Cuba, and Hayti.
- 1493. Columbus discovers Porto Rico.
- 1494. Columbus discovers Jamaica.
- 1496. Tobacco discovered in Hayti.
- 1497. North America discovered by the Cabots at Labrador.
- 1498. Columbus discovers S. America at Guiana and Venezuela.
- 1499. South America visited by Americus Vespuceius.
- 1500. The Amazon at its mouth discovered by Pinçon.  
“ Columbus sent back to Spain in chains by Bovadilla.
- 1502. Columbus discovers the Bay of Honduras ; his last voyage.
- 1506. Columbus dies at Valladolid, in Spain.
- 1510. First colony planted on the main land at the Isthmus of Darien, by Balboa.
- 1511. Velasquez conquers the natives of Cuba.
- 1512. Ponce de Leon discovers Florida.
- 1513. Balboa discovers the South Sea.
- 1516. Rio de la Plata discovered by De Solis.
- 1517. Cordova explores Yucatan.

1518. Grijalva discovers the southern part of Mexico.
1519. Cortez invades Mexico ; lands at Vera Cruz.  
 “ Commencement of the first voyage round the world.
1520. Death of Montezuma, king of Mexico.  
 “ Magellan discovers Patagonia.  
 “ De Ayllon discovers Carolina.
1521. Death of Guatemozin, and conquest of Mexico by Cortez.
1524. Verrazani explores the coast of North America.
1525. Pizarro invades Peru.
1526. Sebastian Cabot explores the La Plata.
1533. Lima in Peru founded by Pizarro.
1535. Cartier explores the River St. Lawrence.
1537. Chili discovered by Almagro.
1539. De Soto lands in Florida.
1540. Orellana explores the Amazon from Peru to the Atlantic.
1541. De Soto discovers the Mississippi River.  
 “ Cartier builds a fort near the present site of Quebec.
1545. Silver mines of Potosi discovered.
1549. Roberval sails for Canada with a colony.
1562. Coligny attempts to found a colony of French Protestants in Florida.
1565. St. Augustine founded by Spaniards.
1584. Sir Walter Raleigh despatches two vessels to Virginia ; the name given by Queen Elizabeth.
1585. He attempts to found a colony at Roanoke.
1586. Discovery of Davis's Straits.
1602. Gosnold discovers and names Cape Cod, and Elizabeth and Martha's Vineyard islands.
1603. Coast of Maine visited by Martin Pring.
1605. Port Royal, Acadie, [Nova Scotia,] founded by the French under De Monts.
1606. James I. grants North Virginia to the Plymouth Company, and South Virginia to the London Company.
1607. The Plymouth Company send George Popham to found the “ *Sagadahoc Colony*,” at the mouth of the Kennebec, in North Virginia.  
 “ The London Company send Christopher Newport to found the “ *Jamestown Colony*,” in South Virginia.
1608. French settlement at Quebec founded by Champlain.  
 “ Pocahontas saves the life of John Smith, Virginia.

1609. Hudson River discovered by Henry Hudson.
1610. Delaware Bay named in honor of Lord de la War, who visited the bay at that time, and died on his vessel at its mouth.
1613. Pocahontas marries John Rolfe.
1614. New York settled by the Dutch on Manhattan Island, (now New York,) and at Fort Orange, (Albany.)
1616. Tobacco first cultivated in Virginia.
1619. First colonial assembly in Virginia, June.
1620. Commencement of negro slavery at Jamestown, Virginia.
- “ The Puritans in the “ Mayflower ” set sail from Southampton, England, for America, Sept. 16.
- “ The “ Mayflower ” anchors in Cape Cod harbor, Nov. 21.
- “ John Carver chosen first governor of Plymouth colony, before leaving their vessel.
- “ The “ Pilgrim Fathers ” land on Plymouth Rock, in Massachusetts, Dec. 21.
1622. Massacre of 347 men, women, and children of the Virginia colony by the Indians, April 1.
1623. Maine and New Hampshire settled by the English.
- “ New Jersey settled by the Dutch and Swedes.
1627. Delaware settled by Swedes and Finns.
1628. Salem founded by John Endicott.
1629. Charlestown founded by Massachusetts Bay colony.
1630. Boston, Cambridge, Roxbury, and Dorchester founded.
- “ John Winthrop first governor of Massachusetts Bay colony.
1633. First house built in Connecticut, at Windsor.
1634. Maryland founded by Lord Baltimore.
1635. Hartford, Windsor, and Wethersfield settled.
- “ Roger Williams banished from Massachusetts.
1636. Providence, Rhode Island, founded by Roger Williams.
1637. Destruction of the Pequod Indians by Captain Mason, in Connecticut.
- “ Mrs. Anne Hutchinson banished from Massachusetts.
1638. New Haven founded by Eaton and Davenport.
- “ Harvard College, Cambridge, founded.
1640. Montreal founded.
1643. Union of the New England colonies.
1645. Clayborne's rebellion in Maryland.
1649. Charles I., king of England, beheaded by order of Parliament.

1651. Navigation Act, passed by Great Britain, restricting the commerce of the colonies.
1653. Oliver Cromwell, Protector of the Commonwealth of England. He dies 1658.
1655. Stuyvesant captures the Swedish settlement in Delaware.  
 “ Conquest of Jamaica Island by the English.
1656. First arrival of Quakers in Massachusetts, and persecution.
1659. Four Quakers executed on Boston Common.
1660. Restoration of monarchy in England under Charles II.  
 “ Whalley and Goffe, the regicides, seek refuge in New England.
1663. Carolina granted to Lord Clarendon by Charles II.
1664. The Dutch at New Amsterdam conquered by the English, and the name changed to New York.
1665. Elizabethtown, New Jersey, settled.
1672. Charleston, South Carolina, founded.
1673. New York retaken by the Dutch ; restored in 1674.  
 “ Mississippi River explored by Marquette and Joliet.
1675. Commencement of King Philip’s war ; attack on Swanzey.
1676. New Jersey divided into East and West Jersey.  
 “ Bacon’s rebellion in Virginia.
1678. Death of King Philip ; close of the war.
1681. Pennsylvania founded by William Penn.
1682. Arrival of Penn in America ; he purchases Delaware.  
 “ De la Salle gives the name Louisiana to the country on both sides of Mississippi River.
1686. Sir Edmund Andros appointed governor of New England by James II.  
 “ Massachusetts deprived of her charter.
1688. New York and New Jersey under Sir Edmund Andros.
1689. William III. accedes to the throne of England.  
 “ Sir Edmund Andros seized and imprisoned in Boston, and sent home to England.  
 “ Commencement of King William’s war.  
 “ Dover attacked by the French and Indians.
1690. Schenectady burned by the French and Indians.  
 “ Successful expedition of Sir William Phips against Port Royal, Nova Scotia.  
 “ First paper money issued in Massachusetts.
1691. Trial and execution of Leisler and Milborne at New York, on a charge of treason.

1692. Massachusetts Bay colony and Plymouth colony united under a new charter.
- “ The witchcraft delusion at Salem.
1695. Rice introduced into Carolina from Africa.
1696. Indian attack on Haverhill.
1697. Peace of Ryswick ; close of King William’s war.
1698. First French colony at the mouth of the Mississippi.
- “ Earl of Bellamont governor of New York.
1699. Captain Kidd, the pirate, arrested at Boston.
1701. Yale College founded.
- “ Commencement of Queen Anne’s war.
1704. First newspaper (Boston News Letter) published at Boston, by B. Green.
- “ French and Indians attack Deerfield.
1710. First colonial post office at New York.
- “ German settlements in North Carolina.
- “ Nova Scotia permanently annexed to the British crown.
1713. The Tuscaroras join the Five Nations.
- “ Peace of Utrecht ; close of Queen Anne’s war.
1717. New Orleans founded by the French.
1720. Tea first used in New England.
1721. Inoculation for small pox introduced into New England.
1724. Fort Dummer built in Vermont.
1729. North and South Carolina separated.
1731. Fort at Crown Point built.
1732. Feb. 22. Birth of George Washington.
1733. Georgia settled by Oglethorpe.
1738. College founded at Princeton, New Jersey.
1742. Faneuil Hall erected at Boston by Peter Faneuil.
1744. King George’s war begins.
1745. Louisburg, on Cape Breton Island, captured by the English.
1748. Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle ; King George’s war closed.
1753. George Washington sent on an embassy to the French commandant on the Ohio.
1754. Commencement of the old French war.
- “ Fort Du Quesne built, April 18.
- “ Washington defeats a party of French under Jumonville at the Great Meadows, May 28.
- “ Benjamin Franklin proposes a plan of union for the colonies, July 4.

1754. Tennessee first settled.
1755. Arrival of General Braddock with British troops.  
“ Colonel Monckton destroys the French settlements on the Bay of Fundy, June 4.  
“ Braddock's defeat at Fort Du Quesne, July 9.  
“ Expeditions against Niagara and Crown Point.  
“ Fort William Henry built near Lake George, New York.
1756. Loudon and Abercrombie command the English forces in America.  
“ Marquis Montcalm commander of the French.  
“ War declared between France and England, May 17.
1757. Fort William Henry taken by the French.
1758. Louisburg taken by the English, July 26.  
“ Fort Frontenac taken by the English, Aug. 27.  
“ Fort Du Quesne taken by the English, and name changed to Pittsburg, Nov. 25.
1759. Niagara, Ticonderoga, and Crown Point taken by the English, in July.  
“ Battle on the Plains of Abraham, and General Wolfe and Marquis Montcalm killed.  
“ Quebec surrenders to the English, Sept. 18.
1763. Treaty of Paris, Feb. 10. France surrenders to Great Britain all her possessions in North America eastward of the Mississippi.
1764. England declares her design of taxing the American colonies.
1765. Passage of the “ Stamp Act ” by Parliament, March 22.  
“ Virginia resolutions against the right of taxation, May 29.  
“ Massachusetts calls a Congress of deputies from the colonies, June 6.  
“ First Colonial Congress convenes at New York, and issues a declaration of rights, Oct. 7.
1766. Stamp Act repealed by Parliament, March 18.
1767. Taxes imposed on paper, glass, painters' colors, and teas, June 29.  
“ Non-importation agreements adopted by the colonial assemblies.
1768. Circular issued by the Massachusetts Assembly to the other colonies, to unite in obtaining a redress of grievances, February.

1768. A regiment of British troops landed in Boston, Oct. 1.
1769. Dartmouth College founded.  
 " Daniel Boone in Kentucky.
1770. Citizens killed by British troops in State Street, Boston, March 5.  
 " Lord North's partial repeal act, passed April 12.
1773. Destruction of three hundred and forty-two chests of tea in Boston harbor, Dec. 16.
1774. Boston Port Bill passed by Parliament, March 31.  
 " General Gage fortifies Boston Neck.  
 " The members of the Massachusetts Assembly resolve themselves into a Provincial Congress, October.  
 " Second Continental Congress meets at Philadelphia, in September.  
 " Committees of "Safety" and "Supplies" appointed by Massachusetts; twelve thousand men to be equipped for service.
1775. Several ships of the line and ten thousand troops ordered to America.  
 " Battle of Lexington, April 19.  
 " Ticonderoga and Crown Point taken by Ethan Allen and Benedict Arnold, May 10.  
 " Congress votes to raise an army of twenty thousand men.  
 " George Washington appointed commander-in-chief of the American army, June 15.  
 " Battle of Bunker Hill, June 17.  
 " Washington takes command of the army at Cambridge, July 12.  
 " Sir William Howe succeeds General Gage as commander of the English forces in America.  
 " The royal governors take refuge on board the English shipping.  
 " Battle of Quebec; General Montgomery killed, General Arnold wounded, Dec. 31.
1776. Lord Dunmore burns Norfolk, Jan. 1.  
 " Washington fortifies "Dorchester Heights," March 4.  
 " The British evacuate Boston, March 17.  
 " Washington moves his army to New York, April.  
 " Repulse of the British at Charleston, S. C., June 28.  
 " Declaration of Independence, July 4.

1776. Dr. Benjamin Franklin sent to Paris to obtain the favor of the French government.
- “ The British troops land on Long Island, Aug. 22.
- “ Battle of Long Island ; Washington defeated, Aug. 27.
- “ Washington abandons New York city, Sept. 12.
- “ The British take New York, Sept. 15.
- “ Battle of White Plains, Oct. 28.
- “ British take Fort Washington and Fort Lee, Nov. 16 and 18.
- “ General Washington retreats through New Jersey, November and December.
- “ Battle of Trenton ; Washington captures one thousand Hessian troops, Dec. 26.
1777. Battle of Princeton ; Washington defeats the British, Jan. 3.
- “ Washington encamps at Morristown.
- “ Washington recovers New Jersey.
- “ General Tryon destroys Danbury, Connecticut, April 26.
- “ Arrival of the Marquis de Lafayette from France with troops and supplies for the American army ; Congress gives him a major-general’s commission, July 31.
- “ Battle of Bennington, Aug. 16.
- “ Battle of Brandywine, Sept. 11.
- “ Battle of Stillwater, Sept. 19.
- “ British enter Philadelphia, Sept. 26.
- “ Battle of Germantown, Oct. 4.
- “ Battle of Saratoga, Oct. 7.
- “ Surrender of Burgoyne’s army to General Gates, at Saratoga, Oct. 17.
- “ British capture Forts Mifflin and Mercer, on the Delaware, Nov. 16 and 18.
- “ Articles of Confederation adopted by Congress, Nov. 15.
- “ Washington’s army encamped at Valley Forge, Dec. 8.
- “ Conspiracy to supplant Washington.
1778. Lord North’s conciliatory bills passed by Parliament, March 11.
- “ Independence of the United States acknowledged by France, and a treaty of alliance signed, Feb. 6.
- “ British evacuate Philadelphia, June 18.
- “ Battle of Monmouth, June 28.
- “ Arrival of a French fleet under Count d’Estaing, July 11.

1778. Massacre of Wyoming, July 3 and 4.  
 “ General Sullivan’s retreat from Rhode Island, Aug. 30.  
 “ Savannah taken by the British, Dec. 29.
1779. British capture Stony Point, on the Hudson, May 31.  
 “ War between England and Spain, June 16.  
 “ Stony Point recaptured by General Wayne, July 15 and 16.  
 “ “ Battle of the Chemung,” in New York, Aug. 29.  
 “ Naval battle off the coast of Scotland, between a flotilla of French and American vessels commanded by Paul Jones, who captured two English frigates with a fleet of merchantmen, Sept. 23.  
 “ Repulse of the Americans at Savannah, Oct. 9.
1780. Battle of Monk’s Corner, April 14.  
 “ British take Charleston, South Carolina, May 12.  
 “ Arrival of French forces under Admiral de Ternay and Count de Rochambeau, July 10.  
 “ Battle of Sanders’s Creek, Aug. 16.  
 “ Battle of King’s Mountain, Oct. 7.  
 “ Treason of Benedict Arnold ; capture of Major André ; escape of Arnold ; death of André, September.  
 “ War between England and Holland, Dec. 20.
1781. Revolt of the Pennsylvania troops at Morristown, Jan. 1.  
 “ Bank of North America founded.  
 “ Lafayette attempts the capture of the traitor Arnold, March.  
 “ General Greene appointed to command the southern army.  
 “ Battle of the Cowpens, Jan. 17.  
 “ Remarkable retreat of General Greene across the Catawba, Yadkin, and Dan Rivers, January and February.  
 “ Battle of Guilford Court House, March 15.  
 “ Battle of Hobkirk’s Hill, April 25.  
 “ Execution of Colonel Isaac Hayne, at Charleston, South Carolina.  
 “ Battle of Eutaw Springs, Sept. 8.  
 “ Cornwallis’s army concentrated at Yorktown, August.  
 “ Siege of Yorktown by the combined armies of Americans and French, Sept. 30.  
 “ Surrender of seven thousand British troops at Yorktown, Oct. 19.

1782. Preliminaries of peace signed at Paris, Nov. 30.
1783. Cessation of hostilities proclaimed, April 19.
- “ Definitive treaties of peace between England and the United States, France, Spain, and Holland, Sept. 3.
- “ American army disbanded, Nov. 3.
- “ New York evacuated by the British, Nov. 25.
- “ Washington resigns his commission, Dec. 23.
1786. Shays's insurrection in Massachusetts.
1787. Convention to form a Federal Constitution meet at Philadelphia, May — September.
1788. Federal Constitution adopted.
1789. George Washington elected President, April 30.
1790. District of Columbia ceded by Virginia and Maryland.
- “ Constitution adopted by Rhode Island, May 29.
1791. Vermont admitted into the Union, March 4.
- “ Bank of the United States established.
1792. Kentucky admitted into the Union, June 1.
1793. Washington reelected president. Death of John Hancock.
1794. Insurrection in Pennsylvania.
1796. Tennessee admitted into the Union, June 1.
1797. John Adams inaugurated president, March 4.
1798. Washington reappointed commander-in-chief.
1799. Death of George Washington, Dec. 14.
1800. Seat of government removed to Washington.
1801. Thomas Jefferson inaugurated president, March 4.
1802. Louisiana ceded by Spain to France, July 20.
1803. Ohio admitted into the Union, Feb. 19.
- “ Louisiana purchased by the United States, April 30.
- “ Commodore Preble bombards Tripoli, August.
1804. Alexander Hamilton killed in a duel by Aaron Burr.
1805. Treaty of peace with Tripoli, June 3.
1806. Expedition of Lewis and Clarke to the Columbia.
1807. Trial of Aaron Burr for treason.
- “ Attack on the frigate Chesapeake, June 22.
- “ Interdict to armed British vessels, July 2.
- “ British orders in council, Nov. 11.
- “ First steamboat invented by Robert Fulton, New York.
- “ Milan decree, Dec. 17.
- “ Embargo laid by the American government, Dec. 22.
1808. Slave trade abolished, Jan. 1.

1809. Embargo repealed, March 1. Bayonne decree.  
 " James Madison inaugurated president, March 4.
1810. Rambouillet decree, March 23.
1811. Engagement between the frigate President and Little Belt,  
 May 16. Battle of Tippecanoe, Nov. 7.
1812. Embargo for ninety days, April 3. War declared, June 18.  
 " British orders in council repealed, June 23.  
 " Surrender of General Hull, August 15.  
 " Action between frigates Constitution and Guerriere.  
 " Defeat of the Americans at Queenstown, November.  
 " Louisiana admitted into the Union, April 8.
1813. Capture of York, Upper Canada, April 27.  
 " Battle of Fort George, May 27.  
 " Chesapeake captured by the Shannon, June 1.  
 " Perry's victory on Lake Erie, Sept. 10.  
 " Battle of the Thames, Oct. 8. Buffalo burned, Dec. 13.
1814. Action between the frigates Essex and Phoebe, March 28.  
 " Battle of Chippewa, July 5. Battle of Bridgewater, July 25.  
 " Washington city captured and capital burned, August.  
 " Stonington bombarded, Aug. 9, 11.  
 " Macdonough's victory on Lake Champlain, Aug. 11.  
 " Battle near Baltimore, Sept. 12.  
 " Treaty of Ghent signed, Dec. 24.
1815. Battle of New Orleans, Jan. 8.  
 " Treaty of Ghent ratified by the president, Feb. 17.  
 " War declared with Algiers, March.
1817. James Monroe inaugurated president, March 4.  
 " Mississippi admitted into the Union, Dec. 10.
1818. Illinois admitted into the Union, Dec. 3.
1819. Alabama admitted into the Union, Dec. 14.
1820. Maine admitted into the Union, March 15.  
 " Cession of Florida to the United States ratified by Spain.
1821. Gas first used for lighting streets in the U. S., at Baltimore.  
 " Jackson takes possession of Florida, July 1.  
 " Missouri admitted into the Union, Aug. 10.
1824. Convention with Great Britain for the suppression of the  
 slave trade, March 13; and with Russia in relation to the  
 north-west boundary, April 5.  
 " Arrival of General Lafayette, on a visit to the U. States,  
 Aug. 13.
1825. John Q. Adams inaugurated president, March 4.

1825. Departure of General Lafayette, Sept. 7.
1826. Death of Presidents Adams and Jefferson, July 4.  
 “ Andrew Jackson inaugurated president, March 4.  
 “ Slavery abolished in Mexico, Sept. 15.
1831. Death of James Monroe, July 4.
1832. Cholera breaks out at Quebec, in Canada — first appearance in America — June 8. Capture of Black Hawk, Aug. 27.  
 “ Electro-Magnetic Telegraph invented by Professor Morse, America.  
 “ John C. Calhoun resigns as vice president, Dec. 28.
1833. New tariff bill signed by the president, March 1.  
 “ Andrew Jackson inaugurated president for a second term, March 4.  
 “ State rights convention of South Carolina, March 11.  
 “ Santa Anna inaugurated president of Mexico, May 16.  
 “ Public deposits removed from the Bank of the United States, by order of General Jackson, Oct. 1.
1834. Vote of censure by the Senate against General Jackson, for removing the deposits, March 28. (Soon after expunged.)
1835. Seminole war begun in Florida.  
 “ Great fire in New York, Dec. 16.
1836. Battle of San Jacinto, in Texas, April 21.  
 “ Arkansas admitted into the Union, June 14.  
 “ Burning of the general post office and patent office, Washington, Dec. 15.
1837. Michigan admitted into the Union, Jan. 26.  
 “ Martin Van Buren inaugurated president, March 4.
1840. Antarctic continent discovered by the United States Exploring Expedition, Jan. 19.  
 “ Sub-treasury bill becomes a law, June 30.
1841. William H. Harrison inaugurated president, March 4.  
 “ Death of President Harrison, April 4.  
 “ Sub-treasury bill repealed, Aug. 4.  
 “ Bankrupt act becomes a law, Aug. 18.
1842. Bankrupt act repealed, March 3.  
 “ Contest for the extension of suffrage in Rhode Island.  
 “ Treaty of Washington, negotiated by Daniel Webster and Lord Ashburton, settling the north-eastern boundary of the United States.
1845. Texas annexed to the United States, March 1.  
 “ Florida admitted into the Union, March 3.

1845. James K. Polk inaugurated president, March 4.  
 “ Death of Andrew Jackson, June 18.  
 “ Texas admitted into the Union, Dec. 21. Treaty with China.
1846. Proclamation of war existing with Mexico, May 13.  
 “ Battles of Palo Alto, and Resaca de la Palma, May 8 and 9.  
 “ The Oregon treaty with Great Britain, settling the north-western boundary, signed at London, June 18.  
 “ Storming of Monterey, and surrender, Sept. 19, 24.  
 “ Iowa admitted into the Union, December.
1847. Battle of Buena Vista, Feb. 23.  
 “ Vera Cruz taken by General Scott, March 27.  
 “ Battle of Cerro Gordo, April 16.  
 “ Battle of Contreras and Churubusco, Aug. 20.  
 “ Battle of Chapultepec, Sept. 13.  
 “ American troops, under General Scott, entered the city of Mexico, Sept. 14, and on the 15th took full possession of the city.  
 “ Wisconsin admitted into the Union, December.
1848. Death of John Quincy Adams, in the Capitol at Washington, Feb. 23.  
 “ Treaty of peace with Mexico ratified at Queretaro, in Mexico, May 30.  
 “ First deposit of California gold in the mint, Dec. 8.
1849. Death of James K. Polk, at Nashville, Tennessee, June 15.
1850. Death of John C. Calhoun, at Washington, March 31.  
 “ Death of Zachary Taylor, at Washington, July 9.  
 “ Millard Fillmore, vice president of the United States, becomes president on the death of General Taylor.  
 “ California admitted into the Union, and Utah and New Mexico organized territories, Sept. 7.  
 “ Slave trade abolished in the District of Columbia, Sept. 16.
1851. Principal room of the Library of Congress destroyed by fire, with about 35,000 volumes of books.
1852. Henry Clay dies at Washington, D. C., aged 75, June 29.  
 “ Daniel Webster dies at Marshfield, Mass., aged 70, Oct. 24.
1853. Franklin Pierce is inaugurated president of the United States, March 4.









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